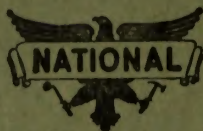


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## CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

Purpose of the Study

The practice of assigning pupils regularly to a particular room for attendance purposes is probably as old as the first situation in which the enrollment of a school exceeded the capacity of a single room. Thus, the homeroom had its beginning, although it would be difficult to say when this name was first given to it. It has been variously known as the homeroom, report room, record room, sessions room, house, home station, and other similar terms indicating the early administrative purpose of such an assignment. It is also difficult to ascertain just when the first teacher in charge of such a group began consciously or unconsciously to take an interest in its members and to perform duties or to carry on activities other than those included in the routine for which the group was originally organized. It would not be presumptuous to conjecture that this, too, dates from the first teacher in charge of any room group. Good teachers have always been interested in their pupils as individuals.

In recent years, many schools have widened the activities carried on in these room groups until they have been made educational as well as administrative





units. More and more duties have been assigned to the teacher in charge of the home station group, time has been allotted for the performance of such duties, and the homeroom and the homeroom program have taken a position of importance in many of our secondary schools.

The efforts made to solve the problems of modern secondary education have not always been based on sound foundations of either theory or practice. The homeroom is no exception and we find in its rapid growth many developments of objectives, organization, and activities that differ greatly from school to school. The efforts of the writer to establish sound homeroom practices in his own school have brought to his attention radical differences in opinion as to the place of the homeroom in our educational scheme and equally divergent practices in the schools which make use of it, and have suggested the desirability of a study of the purposes and practices of the schools of his state to determine the exact status of the homeroom and the extent to which educators agree on its place in secondary education. The purpose of this study is to determine the objectives, organization and activities of the homeroom in the high schools of Massachusetts with some consideration of the opinion of high school principals as to the success of such a program in their schools.



... have had their own share in the  
... in the hands of the new generation, the new  
... for the development of each child, and  
... the children and the teachers have taken a part  
... in the life of the school.  
The school aims to give the children of modern  
secondary education have not always been based on the  
... of which they are capable. The children  
... and to find in the world growth and  
... of objectives, organization, and activities  
... from school to school. The school  
... in the world to establish a world of children in  
his own school have brought to his attention the  
... in the place of the children  
... and really different activities  
in the school with the use of it, and have suggested  
the possibility of a study of the purposes and methods  
of the schools of the state to determine the exact nature  
of the children and the extent to which activities are  
on the place in secondary education. The purpose of this  
study is to determine the objectives, organization and  
activities of the children in the high schools of Kansas  
... of the children of the high schools of high  
school principals as to the nature of such a program in  
their schools.

### Nature of the Study

The literature on the subject was first consulted in an effort to determine what, if any, criteria have been established by educational writers by which one might judge the homeroom program of any given school. This survey indicated that no single criterion could be established for any one phase, but that there are a fairly limited number of theories and practices which are approved by the authorities mentioned. The writer was thus enabled to formulate a questionnaire which would include most of the stated objectives, types of organization, and activities, and which could be readily answered in such a way as to facilitate the classification and evaluation of the returns.

A five page questionnaire was sent to all the high schools, 250 in number, which were listed as Public High Schools in the 1934 Educational Directory of the Department of Education of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Some of the schools included are six-year schools, but most of them are senior or four-year high schools. The questionnaire included first of all questions as to the existence of a homeroom organization and of the objectives set up in the schools where such organizations are found. It next included questions intended to furnish data on the organization and administration of these homerooms. Then followed a series of questions intended



Methods of the Study

The literature on the subject was first surveyed in an effort to determine what, if any, studies have been published by educational writers by which one might judge the relative progress of the given school. This study indicated that no single criterion could be established for any one phase, but that there was a fairly limited number of theories and practices which are approved by the authorities mentioned. The writer was then enabled to formulate a questionnaire which would include most of the stated objectives, types of organization, and activities, and which could be readily answered in such a way as to facilitate the classification and evaluation of the response.

A five page questionnaire was sent to all the high schools, 220 in number, which were listed as public high schools in the 1934 Yearbook and Directory of the Department of Education of the University of Texas. Some of the schools indicated six-year schools, but most of them are senior or 12-year high schools. The questionnaire included first a list of questions as to the existence of a business organization and of the type of organization set up in the schools with good organizations also listed. Next included questions intended to furnish data on the organization and administration of these businesses. The writer wishes a series of questions intended

to disclose the activities carried on, and finally a question as to the principal's opinion of the success or non-success of the program and the reasons therefor. It included also a request for copies of any available manuals, outlines or other materials from which the details of these activities might be better secured.



to discuss the activities carried on, and timely  
presented as to the principal's opinion of the results  
of the progress of the program and the various factors  
is included, also a request for copies of any materials  
desired, articles or other material from which the  
facts of these activities might be better known.

## CHAPTER II

## GUIDANCE IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOL

One of the chief causes of the expansion of the homeroom into something more than an administrative unit is the guidance movement.

The same thinking that brought us in 1918 a specific statement of the objectives of secondary education has led us to a realization of the fact that there are individual differences between pupils. This recognition has influenced our educational practices in two important ways: it has encouraged the extension of educational opportunities both horizontally and vertically, and it has introduced the element of choice on the part of the pupil or of someone acting for him. Necessity for choice exists at every point: What sports shall we follow to improve our physical well-being? What subjects in high school are fundamental for all adults? How shall we contribute best to the welfare of our home circle? For what vocations are we best fitted and what steps should we take to make ourselves efficient in our chosen field? What shall we do in our spare time? What shall be our attitude toward the duties which everyone owes to the community of which he is a part? What qualities of character are most important and how are they to



## CHAPTER II

### CHANGING IN THE EXISTING SCHOOLS

One of the chief causes of the expansion of the  
movement for secondary education is the administrative  
change in the public schools.  
The new thinking that began in 1915, and  
other statements of the objectives of secondary educa-  
tion have led to a re-examination of the fact that there  
are individual differences between pupils. This recog-  
nition has influenced our educational practices in two  
important ways: it has encouraged the retention of  
educational opportunities both horizontally and vertically,  
it has increased the element of choice on the  
part of the pupil or of parents acting for him. These  
two factors exist at every point: What should  
shall we follow to improve our physical well-being? What  
subjects in high school are fundamental for all adults?  
How shall we contribute best to the welfare of our home  
community? The first questions are as yet little and hard  
to answer. We have to take ourselves off to our  
chosen field? That shall we do in our spare time? What  
shall be our attitude toward the future which everyone  
owns to the community of which he is a part? What quali-  
ties of character are most important and how are they to

be developed? Throughout the whole maze of curricular and extra-curricular activities, through the choices of studies, vocations, hobbies, and sports, through the bewildering variety of social situations to which the individual must acquire appropriate responses, the pupil needs the guidance of someone who knows his background and understands his needs.

Such guidance as was done previous to the past few years was done with some degree of efficiency by the principal or the classroom teacher. One of the best features of the old type of school was the close contact between the teacher and pupil--restricted enough in its avowed range but far reaching in its indirect influence. Unfortunately, the phenomenal increase in high school population has made such intimate contact impossible, while the same increase complicates the situation by giving pupils who differ more widely in their characteristics a wider variety of choices to make. Not only is the school itself offering more occasion for choice but life outside of school, through such widely different developments as the invention of new machinery and the repeal of the 18th amendment, have made more difficult the decisions of young people in their economic, social and moral relations. At the very time when developments within and without the school have made close contact most necessary, departmentalization and specialization of the secondary





school have made the opportunity for such contact almost non-existent.

In a large high school particularly, no one person can know all about every individual pupil - his home conditions, his ability, his previous record, his current performance, his possibilities, ambitions and plans. The principal with his complex administrative and supervisory responsibilities must deal with policies and has little time for personal contact with individuals. The classroom teacher sees such a limited side of the pupil that the task is impossible for her, yet guidance without this knowledge is worthless. There must be some agency within the school organization that will do for its members what in the old days the principal did for every member of the school or the teacher for every member of his class, and, in addition, perform all the other guidance functions made necessary by modern conditions of life.

This need for guidance in the secondary school is well stated by Reavis as follows: "Guidance services on the part of the secondary school are rendered necessary by at least four conditions, namely, (1) the character of the demands of modern secondary education; (2) the changes in the social and economic order to which the secondary school pupil must adjust himself; (3) the needs of the



school have made the responsibility for such contact at-  
tendees.

In a large way, school principals, as the per-  
son who know all about every individual child - his  
needs, capabilities, his ability, his previous record, his  
current performance, his personality, his interests and  
plans. The principal acts as a central administrative  
and supervisory responsibility, which deals with both  
class and the child's life. Personal contact with in-  
dividuals. The principal checks over each child's  
side of the record and the child is responsible for his  
yet this does not mean that knowledge is unlimited. There  
must be some agency which can check organization, that  
will do for the school, what in the old days the prin-  
cipal did for every member of the school and the teacher.  
For every member of the school, and, in addition, per-  
haps all the other agencies which are necessary to  
control the life of the school.

This need for change in the secondary school is  
well stated by George de Meillon: "Secondary schools are  
the last of the secondary school are a complex necessity  
of the last of the secondary school, namely, (1) the control of  
the progress of every individual child; (2) the change  
in the school and community order to which the secondary  
school must adapt itself; (3) the needs of the

adolescent for counsel and guidance; and (4) the necessity for avoiding waste in the process of education."<sup>1</sup>

Guidance as indicated above must not be limited to any one phase of the problem, although it has been frequently the case that some authorities have had a tendency to see only the phase in which they are most interested. The earliest workers in the field, for example, were concerned almost entirely with the vocational aspects of guidance. Some, on the other hand, have a tendency to make the word "guidance", almost synonymous with "education", as is indicated by the title of the recent book by Dr. John M. Brewer, "Education as Guidance."<sup>2</sup>

The statement by Kefauver and Hand that "the objectives of guidance must find their counterpart in the objectives of the secondary school"<sup>3</sup> seems to reflect the viewpoint of most writers on the subject. After quoting Koos' grouping of these objectives into the civic-social-moral, physical, vocational, and recreational objectives,

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<sup>1</sup>William C. Reavis, Programs of Guidance, Bulletin, 1932, No. 17, National Survey of Secondary Education, Monograph No. 14, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup>John M. Brewer, Education as Guidance.

<sup>3</sup>Grayson N. Kefauver and Harold C. Hand, Introduction to Common Problems of Group Guidance by Richard D. Allen, Frances J. Stewart and Lester J. Schloerb, p. xiv.





these writers go on to say:

"Guidance has certain very significant contributions to make to the attainment of the major objectives of the secondary school. (1) It aims to give students an understanding of the social, recreational, health, and vocational activities in which they participate at present and in which they will continue to participate after leaving school, and of the need of education preparatory to such participation. (2) It aims to help students to discover interests and to form accurate judgments relative to the extent of their abilities in different types of activities. (3) It aims to acquaint students with the schools, courses, and other educational provisions that best prepare for such activities. (4) It aims to help students to select the activities in life in which they will participate and in which there is large promise of success and happiness for them. (5) It aims to help students in planning an educational program that will best prepare them for their chosen activities, giving appropriate recognition to the need of education for the social, recreational, health, and vocational activities. (6) It aims also to facilitate adjustment of students in their activities in and out of school so that they will attain maximum achievement and happiness and not be disturbed by social and personal mal-adjustments. (7) It should make some contribution to the general improvement of education by defining the educational needs of individuals, since the knowledge of the individual obtained by the guidance service will be available also to the teacher, supervisor and administrator."<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup>Grayson N. Kefauver and Harold C. Hand, Introduction to Common Problems of Group Guidance, p. xviii.





## CHAPTER III

## GUIDANCE AND THE HOME ROOM

It is evident to the most casual reader of the literature of secondary education that the question of guidance is closely bound up with the question of the homeroom, and vice versa. For example, of six books on the writer's desk whose titles indicate that they are concerned primarily with guidance,<sup>1</sup> two books whose titles indicate that they are concerned primarily with homeroom organization and activity,<sup>2</sup> two whose titles indicate that they are concerned primarily with extra-curricular activities,<sup>3</sup> two dealing with character education,<sup>4</sup> and

---

<sup>1</sup>John M. Brewer, Education as Guidance; Arthur J. Jones, Principles of Guidance; Richard D. Allen, Case Conferences in Group Guidance; Richard D. Allen, Frances J. Stewart, and Lester J. Schloerb, Common Problems of Group Guidance; William C. Reavis, Programs of Guidance, Bulletin, 1932, No. 17, National Survey of Secondary Education, Monograph No. 14; National Association of Secondary School Principals, Committee on Guidance, Guidance in Secondary Schools, Bulletin No. 19, 1928.

<sup>2</sup>Evan E. Evans and Malcolm Scott Hallman, Home Rooms, Organization, Administration and Activities; Mark D. Gordon and Henry Craig Seasholes, The Homeroom Teacher and A Guide to the Use of "The Homeroom Pupil".

<sup>3</sup>Elbert K. Fretwell, Extra-Curricular Activities in Secondary Schools; Harry C. McKown, Extra-Curricular Activities.

<sup>4</sup>Charles E. Germane and Edith Gayton Germane, Character Education, A Program for the School and the Home; Department of Education, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Character Education in the Secondary School, Bulletin No. 16, 1931.





two dealing with administration of secondary schools,<sup>5</sup> all discuss guidance and the homeroom in the same chapters and even in the same paragraphs. If these are fair samples of the literature in the field, it appears that discussion of the homeroom will usually involve the question of guidance and that discussions of guidance will just as frequently involve some reference to the homeroom.

These discussions and references usually take one or two forms, or some modification of either. The first viewpoint is well expressed by the statement of Dr. Jesse B. Davis appearing in the report of the Committee on Guidance of the National Association of Secondary School Principals as follows:

"The foundations of all guidance within the school are found in the homeroom organization. Efficiency in secondary school administration is demanding that every teacher shall be a "homeroom" teacher. While the argument against such a procedure is often urged that not all teachers make "good" homeroom teachers, it can also be said that not all persons so employed are "good" teachers. A "good" teacher will make a "good" homeroom teacher. It is the responsibility of the administration to secure good teachers. It is also the responsibility of the principal to take the teachers provided and to train them in service for the duties they are to perform. This applies to the problem of guidance as well as to classroom instruction.

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<sup>5</sup>Harl R. Douglass, Organization and Administration of Secondary Schools; James B. Edmonson, Joseph Roemer, Francis L. Bacon, Secondary School Administration.





"The homeroom teacher functions in all phases of guidance. It is in this capacity that she comes to know each pupil in the room more intimately than any other teacher. She alone has the opportunity of knowing the pupil in all his relationships;--his studies; his difficulties with teachers; his problems of discipline; his home conditions and environment; his associates in school and out; his attitudes, interests and abilities. Therefore, whether the school be large or small, it is with the homeroom teacher that the foundations for guidance must be laid.

"The first responsibility of the homeroom teacher is educational and, in the sense that education is preparatory for one's life work, is also vocational. It is with this teacher that the pupil works out his curriculum choices and his plans for graduation. Any peculiar or difficult case will be referred to the director of guidance or to the special advisor provided by the organization. Educational guidance also may be interpreted to mean guidance in the formation of right habits of work and study in which the homeroom may play an important part. Individual conferences are held after each periodic marking of the report cards, with a possible interview with a parent, and resulting in definite plans for improvement and necessary adjustments.

"The development of the homeroom period with from fifteen to twenty minutes at the opening of the day gives the homeroom teacher an exceptional opportunity for social and moral guidance. By organizing the group to work out the program of homeroom activities, the teacher can influence their ideals, attitudes, and judgments in a manner that will result in right thinking followed by right acting."<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup>Guidance in Secondary Schools, Bulletin No. 19, 1928, p. 16.





This viewpoint is usually held by those who attempt to make the homeroom something other than a purely administrative unit.

The other viewpoint is well expressed by Dr. Richard D. Allen who after pointing out the need for group guidance in the secondary school goes on to say: "It cannot safely or adequately be handled by every teacher during a homeroom period."<sup>7</sup> It is stated even more strongly by Brewer when he says: "We shall maintain that the homeroom organization, except under unusual circumstances, to be specified, is an exceedingly poor medium for any form of educational guidance."<sup>8</sup> Again, speaking of guidance in citizenship, he says: "The ever receptive homeroom teacher is drafted, in addition to calling the roll, extracting written excuses, warning about safety, and teaching how to study, and is persuaded to teach parliamentary law and preside at elections of officers and of delegates to the school council. Being a subject teacher in his interests and preparation, he performs the new tasks in good, bad or indifferent fashion as the accidents of interests and ability may suggest."<sup>9</sup> Again he says: "No homeroom plan is likely to be successful unless the teacher is

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<sup>7</sup>Case Conferences in Group Guidance, p. 5.

<sup>8</sup>Education as Guidance, p. 135.

<sup>9</sup>Education as Guidance, p. 234.





re-educated."<sup>10</sup>

The holders of this viewpoint usually maintain that guidance is a task for a trained expert in the counseling field, as does Allen in Providence, R. I.,<sup>11</sup> or that the entire curriculum itself should be the guidance vehicle, since, as Brewer says, the school has but one function - to guide young people in living.<sup>12</sup> Under this theory, every teacher should be a specialized guidance expert.

In actual practice, schools that are attempting to perform these guidance functions are frequently taking a position somewhere between the two extremes. Reavis in that portion of the report of the National Survey of Secondary Education devoted to Guidance in Secondary Schools, reports that there are four general types of guidance programs in use in the secondary school:

(1) centralized bureaus of guidance for secondary schools in city school systems represented by Boston, Chicago, and Cincinnati which furnish trained workers for the more specialized functions particularly vocational guidance leaving much of the aid in choice of subject, extra-curricular activities, the development of intellectual

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<sup>10</sup>Education as Guidance, p. 590.

<sup>11</sup>William C. Reavis, Programs of Guidance, Bulletin, 1932, No. 17, National Survey of Secondary Education, Monograph No. 14, pp. 59-71.

<sup>12</sup>Education as Guidance, p. 9.





interests, social adjustment, difficulties in class room work, and the like to the regular organization;

(2) centralized guidance organization in city systems with the individual secondary school considered as the unit as in Providence and Milwaukee where guidance activities are differentiated and definitely assigned to officers of administration and teachers properly qualified to carry on the activities assigned, with homeroom advisers accepting responsibility for the orientation of pupils, the maintenance of pupil morale, and the development of a wholesome attitude toward the school as a civic enterprise; (3) centralized guidance organization in individual secondary schools as in the Milwaukee Vocational School and the LaSalle, Illinois, Township High School and Junior College differing from the second type in that they maintain a separate staff of guidance officers instead of utilizing the regular administrative officers and teachers who are especially qualified;

(4) central guidance organizations in individual secondary schools utilizing regular officers and teachers as guidance functionaries as represented by Joliet Township High School and Junior College, Thornton Township High School and New Trier Township High School, where the principal or a trained counselor serves as head of the guidance program and the duties are performed through the homeroom supplemented by special administrative of-





ficers such as deans, personnel directors, and other special counselors.<sup>13</sup>

Even in the most centralized systems using specially trained counselors a great deal of guidance is left in the hands of the homeroom teacher. In Providence, for example, the functions of guidance allotted to the homeroom teacher are as follows:

1. Helpful, personal interest in the pupil.
2. Orientation in school life and routine.
3. Records, reports and attendance.
4. Development of school citizenship, leadership and personality.
5. Co-operation with counselors and separate teachers.<sup>14</sup>

It is evident therefore that any survey of the homeroom objectives, organization and activities should include a consideration of the guidance functions, including orientation in school life and routine as well as the usual administrative functions.

#### Other Objectives of the Homeroom

Writers on the subject of homerooms claim for this unit of the school organization an opportunity for the practice of citizenship unequalled elsewhere in the school. Evans and Hallman list pupil participation as one of the major objectives of the homeroom.<sup>15</sup> Allen,

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<sup>13</sup>Programs of Guidance, Bulletin, 1932, No. 17, National Survey of Secondary Education, Monograph No. 14, pp. 135-144.

<sup>14</sup>Richard D. Allen, Organization and Supervision of Guidance in Public Education, pp. 121-122.

<sup>15</sup>Home Rooms, Organization, Administration and Activities, pp. 6-7.





previously quoted, places this responsibility on the homeroom teacher.<sup>16</sup> Corrigan, reporting on homerooms in Detroit junior high schools stresses this outcome as a very important one.<sup>17</sup> Germane and Germane list as one of the chief objectives of such an organization that of stimulating the pupil to participate zealously and constructively in the democratic life of the group.<sup>18</sup> Fretwell in a chapter on the homeroom as a phase of extra-curricular activities says "The basis for enabling pupils - and teachers as well - to develop the ability to participate intelligently in directing their own extra-curricular affairs is in the life and organization of the homeroom."<sup>19</sup> His suggested outline for the purposes, organization and program of the homeroom lists twenty room committees through which additional opportunities for participation may be extended to members of the group,<sup>20</sup> and suggests many specific aims and devices for this phase of the program.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>16</sup>Guidance in Secondary Schools, pp. 121-122.

<sup>17</sup>E. J. Corrigan, "The Home Room", School Review, XXXVIII, (April, 1930), pp. 300-306.

<sup>18</sup>Character Education, A Program for the School and the Home, p. 191.

<sup>19</sup>Extra-Curricular Activities in Secondary Schools, p. 33.

<sup>20</sup>Extra-Curricular Activities in Secondary Schools, pp. 48-49.

<sup>21</sup>Extra-Curricular Activities in Secondary Schools, p. 50.





The frequency with which character education is mentioned in connection with the homeroom program indicates that this, too, must be considered in any survey of homeroom objectives. One of the best treatments of this phase of the work is that of Germane and Germane who devote two chapters in their book on "Character Education" to the place of the homeroom in their suggested program although they tie it up very definitely with citizenship participation, guidance, and cultural development.<sup>22</sup> Davis in his charts showing an analysis of the homeroom activity program in senior and junior high schools lists many phases of character education which are suitable for development in the homeroom differentiated according to grades.<sup>23</sup>

Finally, there is frequent reference in the literature to curriculum enrichment as a valid objective of the homeroom organization. Germane and Germane speak of enriching the cultural life of the pupil.<sup>24</sup> Evans and Hallman refer to the inclusion of materials which are of value, and yet do not seem to fall logically in to any

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<sup>22</sup>Character Education, A Program for the School and the Home, pp. 183-241.

<sup>23</sup>Jesse B. Davis, Analysis of the Homeroom Activity Program in the Senior and Junior High School, charts worked out as a class project in a Seminar at Boston University School of Education, 1932.

<sup>24</sup>Character Education, A Program for the School and the Home, p. 191.





of the particular subject fields.<sup>25</sup> It is probable that much of what is given here by different writers could be listed also under the head of character education although Fretwell refers specifically to the development of appreciation of music, of art, of literature and of attractive surroundings.<sup>26</sup>

It is obvious therefore, that the questions relating to the objectives of the homeroom should be so stated that the answers would indicate whether or not the schools reporting have as their objectives the following outcomes which, as has already been shown, are the usually accepted objectives of such a program:

- a. Administrative efficiency
- b. Guidance including orientation in school life and routine and the various classifications of guidance as personal, educational, vocational, social, moral, health and recreational guidance
- c. Pupil participation in school citizenship, including the formulation of desirable public opinion
- d. Curriculum enrichment especially as it implies character education.

Similarly the questions relating to the activities are naturally based on the activities most readily suggested by the objectives listed. They deal chiefly with administrative duties, group guidance activities, individual counseling, and pupil participation.

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<sup>25</sup>Home Room, Organization, Administration and Activities, p. 7.

<sup>26</sup>Extra-Curricular Activities in Secondary Schools, p. 35.





## CHAPTER IV

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE HOMEROOM  
IN MASSACHUSETTS HIGH SCHOOLS

The 250 high schools to which the questionnaire was sent are grouped by the Department of Education of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts into five enrollment groups; 1-50 pupils, 51-100 pupils, 101-200 pupils, 201-500 pupils, and above 500 pupils. This grouping was used wherever such analysis seemed advisable in this study, except that the last named group was further divided into two parts, one including enrollments from 501-1000 and the other all schools of over 1000 enrollment.

Answers were received from 184 schools, or 73.6 per cent of the total number, at the time the returns were tabulated. A few replies were received later, but the trends of these belated answers were so close to those obtained in the tabulated returns that it seemed unnecessary to revise the tables to include them.

Percentage of Returns

Table I shows the percentage of returns from the various enrollment groups. The 10 schools of the state enrolling 1 to 50 pupils returned 4 questionnaires, or 40 per cent of the total. The 51-100 group returned 19 out of 37, or 51.3 per cent. It was expected that these smaller schools where a room often holds an entire



THE ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS  
OF THE INVESTIGATION

The first step in the analysis of the results of the investigation is to determine the scope of the problem. This is done by a careful study of the literature on the subject and by a consultation with the experts in the field. The next step is to determine the objectives of the investigation. This is done by a careful study of the literature on the subject and by a consultation with the experts in the field. The third step is to determine the methods of the investigation. This is done by a careful study of the literature on the subject and by a consultation with the experts in the field. The fourth step is to determine the results of the investigation. This is done by a careful study of the literature on the subject and by a consultation with the experts in the field.

The results of the investigation are presented in the following tables. The first table shows the percentage of the total sample which is in each of the four categories. The second table shows the percentage of the total sample which is in each of the four categories, broken down by sex. The third table shows the percentage of the total sample which is in each of the four categories, broken down by age. The fourth table shows the percentage of the total sample which is in each of the four categories, broken down by education.

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL SAMPLE

Table I shows the percentage of the total sample which is in each of the four categories. The first category is "Total Sample", which is 100%. The second category is "Male", which is 50%. The third category is "Female", which is 50%. The fourth category is "Total Sample", which is 100%.

class, or possibly the entire school, might make a smaller return than the larger schools, since it is generally accepted that the necessity for homeroom organization becomes greater as the size of the school increases, and since schools without a sub-division of classes into smaller groups might feel that the questionnaire did not

TABLE I  
PERCENTAGE OF RETURNS OF QUESTIONNAIRE

Enrollment Group	Number of Schools Receiving Questionnaire	Number of Schools Returning Questionnaire	Percentage of Returns
1 - 50	10	4	40.0
51 - 100	37	19	51.3
101 - 200	50	36	70.2
201 - 500	56	38	67.8
501 - 1000	40	39	97.5
over 1000	<u>57</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>84.2</u>
Total	250	184	73.6

apply to their situation. In the 101-200 group, 36 out of 50, or 70.2 per cent of the schools, replied. The 201-500 group yielded a return of 38 out of 56, or 67.8 per cent. The larger schools made a considerably greater return. In the 501-1000 group, 39 out of 40 schools, or 97.5 per cent, replied, while answers were received from 48 out of 57, or 84.2 per cent of the schools enrolling over 1000 pupils.





The Extent of Homeroom Organization

The extent to which these schools are organized into homerooms is shown in Table II.

TABLE II

PERCENTAGE OF SCHOOLS WHICH ARE ORGANIZED  
INTO HOMEROOMS

Enrollment Group	Number of Schools Returning Questionnaire	Number of Schools Reporting Homeroom Organization	Percentage of Schools Reporting Homeroom Organization
1-50	4	3	75.0
51-100	19	15	78.9
101-200	36	29	80.6
201-500	38	34	89.4
501-1000	39	34	87.1
over 1000	<u>48</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>93.7</u>
Total	184	160	86.9

This table indicates that 160 schools, or 86.9 per cent of 184 schools returning the questionnaire, have something which they call a homeroom organization. Here again, the smaller enrollment groups reported a smaller proportion of schools with such a plan, and the percentage increases regularly from group to group with one exception. The 1-50 group showed 3 out of 4, or 75 per cent, and the 51-100 group reported 15 out of 19, or 78.9 per cent. In the 101-200 group, there are 29 out of 36, or 80.6 per cent, with homeroom organizations, while the 38





schools in the 201-500 group showed 34, or 89.4 per cent, with the same situation. The 34 out of 39, or 87.1 per cent of the 501-1000 enrollment group, made up the only group that dropped below the preceding group in percentage, but the group of over 1000 reported 93.7 per cent, or 45 out of 48 schools, with the homeroom plan of organization.

It seems probable from the nature of some of the replies that among the schools which did not report a regular homeroom organization there may be a few with fully as much organization as some of the others that did report. Some of them are small schools where all of the pupils sit in one room or at the most two or three rooms, and in some cases the person replying seemed in doubt as to whether or not this situation constituted a homeroom organization within the meaning of the questionnaire. Similarly, some of the schools in all enrollment groups which reported no homeroom organization made comments which might lead one to believe that they too had something which, except for name, might be very close to the same thing reported by other schools claiming to be organized on a basis of homerooms.

#### The Objectives of the Homeroom

The objectives for which the homerooms in these 160 high schools are organized are analyzed in Table III. Administrative efficiency appears to be a common purpose in all but a very few schools, 147, or 91.9 per cent, re-





TABLE III

THE OBJECTIVES FOR WHICH HOMEROOMS ARE ORGANIZED  
IN 160 HIGH SCHOOLS

	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Administrative efficiency	147	91.9
Orientation in school life and routine	90	56.3
Personal guidance	85	53.1
Educational guidance	82	51.3
Social guidance	67	41.9
Pupil participation in citizenship	66	41.2
Moral guidance	62	38.8
Health guidance	50	31.3
Formulation of desirable public opinion	45	28.1
Vocational guidance	43	26.9
Recreational and leisure guidance	29	18.1
Curriculum enrichment	20	12.5
Character training	1	0.6
Training in leadership	1	0.6
Training in self-control	1	0.6
Advocate	1	0.6
"In loco parentis"	1	0.6
Meeting legal requirement for Scripture reading and prayer	1	0.6
Serving as wards in a class election system	1	0.6
An organization for setting-up drills	1	0.6
No answer	7	4.4





porting this as an objective. It is the only objective listed by 27 schools, or 16.9 per cent of the total. No other objective is common to much more than half of the schools reporting, orientation in school life and routine being highest with 90, or 56.3 per cent, closely followed by personal guidance with 85, or 53.1 per cent, and educational guidance with 82, or 51.3 per cent. Next in frequency are grouped social guidance, with 67, or 41.9 per cent, the objective of furnishing an opportunity for pupils to participate in the citizenship possibilities of the school with 66 schools, or 41.2 per cent reporting this as one of their purposes, and moral guidance with 62, or 38.8 per cent. Health guidance was reported by 50 schools, or 31.3 per cent. The homeroom as a place for the formulation of desirable public opinion was reported by 45 schools, or 28.1 per cent of the total. Vocational guidance is considered an objective in only 43 schools, or 26.9 per cent, while recreational or leisure time guidance seems worth attempting in only 29, or 18.1 per cent of the schools reporting. Last place on the list falls to deliberate attempts to enrich the curriculum in other respects by means of homeroom programs, an objective reported by only 20 schools, or 12.5 per cent of the total. Seven schools made no answer, meaning to convey, perhaps, that they have no conscious objectives whatever, while 8 others added to the list eight objectives under other names, most of which would properly come under some of those previously listed. One school included as an ob-





jective "Meeting legal requirement for Scripture reading and prayer."

Some interesting comments accompanied replies to this question. One principal expressed the opinion that the list was altogether too broad and that the homeroom should be nothing more than a place to create a feeling of co-operative understanding between the teacher and the pupil. Others, particularly in some of the larger schools, reported that many of the objectives mentioned are the objectives of regular guidance organizations which are set up apart from the homeroom plan. These were frequently the schools that reported the administrative objective only.

There is also occasional evidence in the returns to warrant the belief that some principals were checking objectives which they felt to be theoretically sound, or desirable, or which might by some stretch of imagination be read into the activities of their homerooms rather than the objectives for which they are consciously striving. Such comments as "a little of everything", "occasionally", "not much of this", "in some rooms", "varies with different teachers", and others of similar nature indicate the hazy condition of the objectives in many schools. Furthermore, the answers checked in succeeding questions are often at variance with the objectives avowed in this part of the questionnaire.

There seem to be three general patterns found in the objectives of Massachusetts high schools in their





homeroom organization. Some of them, less than 20 per cent, are definitely organized for administrative purposes only and make no pretense of doing anything else. Others, including perhaps 50 per cent, are just as definitely organized not only for administration but also for a program of guidance and citizenship participation. The other 30 per cent are organized primarily for administrative purposes but claim a variety of objectives probably as a result of occasional and desultory activity rather than as a result of purposeful planning.

#### Summary

Over 86 per cent of the schools returning the questionnaire reported that they have a homeroom organization, although there is little agreement as to purposes and practices.

Over 90 per cent of these schools use the homeroom as an administrative unit, and almost one-fifth of them report no other purpose. Some claim other objectives, but give evidence of using the homeroom chiefly for administration. About one-half have apparently set up other objectives and made definite efforts to accomplish them.

In addition to the common purpose of administrative efficiency, homerooms are organized largely for the objectives of guidance or of pupil participation in school





citizenship, or both. Scarcely more than one-half have as a "paper" objective any common phase of guidance, and less than half list the citizenship objective.

The most common forms of guidance are orientation, personal guidance, and educational guidance followed in order by social guidance, moral guidance, health guidance, vocational guidance, and recreational guidance.

Curriculum enrichment, as such, is a stated objective in a very limited number of schools.





## CHAPTER V

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE HOMEROOM IN MASSACHUSETTS  
HIGH SCHOOLS

The homeroom organizations functioning in the high schools of Massachusetts vary greatly from school to school in some details and show great similarity in others.

The Grouping of Pupils

Table IV shows the methods used for grouping pupils in homerooms. Organization on the basis of class is almost universal, 95.6 per cent of the returns indicating this practice. Of the 153 schools so reporting, 60, or 37.5 per cent of the entire 160, group the pupils in alphabetical order. Next come 44 schools, or 27.5 per cent, which reported grouping by class without mention of any other consideration. A great many of these are from the ranks of the smaller schools where a room frequently houses an entire class, or two or three classes, or the entire school. The class groups are broken up by curriculums rather than alphabetically in 21 schools, or 13.1 per cent of the total, while random selection within the class is the practice in 15 schools, or 9.5 per cent. The sexes within the class are segregated in 9 schools, or 5.6 per cent, while intelligence quotients and foreign language electives are the determining factors in one school each. One principal reported that the class is the basis but that no two pupils of the same name are as-





TABLE IV

THE METHODS USED FOR GROUPING PUPILS  
IN HOMEROOMS IN 160 HIGH SCHOOLS

Method of Grouping	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
By class, in alphabetical order	60	37.5
By class, without mention of other consideration	44	27.5
By class, and by curriculum within the class	21	13.1
By class, and random selection within the class	15	9.5
By class, and by sex within the class	9	5.6
By class, and by intelligence quo- tients or ability rating with- in the class	1	0.6
By class, and according to foreign language elective	1	0.6
By class, but with no two of the same name in the same room	1	0.6
By class, in combinations of alpha- betical order, first period recitations, and chronological age	1	0.6
By curriculum, regardless of class	5	3.2
By sex, regardless of class	1	0.6
With some of each curriculum in each room regardless of class	1	0.6
Total number grouped basically by class	153	95.6
Total number grouped basically without consideration of class	7	4.4
Total	160	100.0





signed to the same room, a relief, undoubtedly, for both pupils and teachers in rooms that might otherwise be made up almost exclusively of Smiths or Joneses. Still another school reported a combination of alphabetical order, first period recitation, and chronological age, although it is difficult to understand exactly what was meant by this reply. The 21 schools reporting the curriculum as the controlling factor within the class included 6 that assign pupils alphabetically within the curriculum, 3 that group by intelligence quotients or ability ratings, and 3 that segregate the sexes in the given curriculum. These are, of course, schools large enough to make such further refinement of classification practical.

The 7 schools, or 4.4 per cent, which do not use the class as a basis for grouping are made up of 5 which group by curriculum only, 1 which groups by sexes, and 1 which makes a point of including some in each curriculum in every room.

Conspicuously missing from the list are the practices of grouping according to first period recitation groups, according to the school from which the pupil came, according to extra-curricular interest, or according to chronological age, all plans which are mentioned in the literature of the homeroom.

The situation just described is one which has evidently grown without planning in most schools, aided by





the fact that it facilitates the efficient performance of administrative routine. The existence of schools in every stage of development contributes to the belief that in most cases when the school became too large to fit into a single room entire classes were removed to other rooms until each class was a unit in itself. Further growth meant further sub-division which was accomplished either by alphabetical division or by division into curriculums. As these last became too large to include an entire curriculum in a given room, it became necessary to sub-divide further. The schools grouping by curriculum, sex, or ability may have done so in an effort to further the guidance objective or simply as an aid to administrative efficiency.

#### The Size of Homeroom Groups

Table V shows that the size of homeroom groups varies greatly, 22 schools, or 13.8 per cent, reporting rather vague figures ranging from as low as 10 to as high as 160, although no one school reported both extremes. The indications are that in most cases, the size of the group is determined by the capacity of the room, 5 schools reporting only "room capacity" instead of figures. The schools that reported definite figures revealed the size of their typical or usual homerooms to range from 20 to 55, 30 schools, or 18.7 per cent of the total, reporting 30-34, and 52 schools, or 32.5 per cent, reporting 35-39. Four schools did not answer.





The median lies in the 35-39 range, 51.2 per cent fall between 30 and 39, and 75 per cent fall between 25 and 44. The typical homeroom, then, is a group of from 30 to 40 pupils of the same class, usually without further refinement of classification.

TABLE V  
THE SIZE OF HOMEROOM GROUPS  
IN 160 HIGH SCHOOLS

Usual Size of Home- room Group	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
20-24	2	1.3
25-29	15	9.4
30-34	30	18.7
35-39	52	32.5
40-44	23	14.4
45-49	6	3.7
50-54	1	0.6
Room capacity	5	3.1
Ranging from 10 to 160	22	13.8
No answer	<u>4</u>	<u>2.5</u>
Total	160	100.0

The Status of the Teacher

In the great majority of schools, the teacher remains with the homeroom group only one year, according to Table VI, which shows 142 schools, or 88.8 per cent, reporting this practice. Two schools, or 1.3 per cent, both with semi-annual promotion systems, change teachers every semester. Four schools, or 2.5 per cent, indicated





more than one year, but did not go into further detail. One reported that at the end of the freshman year the group gets a new teacher who remains through the next three years. Eight schools, or 5 per cent, try to keep the same teacher with the group through the entire school career, although several qualified the report with the statement "as far as is administratively possible." No school reported the practice, mentioned in some of the literature, of keeping the group with the same teacher through the first three years and assigning it to a specialized senior sponsor for the final year. Three schools made no reply.

TABLE VI

THE LENGTH OF TIME THE TEACHER REMAINS  
WITH THE SAME HOMEROOM GROUP  
IN 160 HIGH SCHOOLS

Time Remaining With Homeroom Group	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
One semester	2	1.3
One year	142	88.8
More than one year	4	2.5
Last three years	1	0.6
Entire school career	8	5.0
No answer	<u>3</u>	<u>1.8</u>
Total	160	100.0

Since teachers in 144 schools change room groups from year to year or from semester to semester, it is significant to know whether or not they are re-assigned





to pupils of the same grade as before, thereby creating a degree of expertness in dealing with pupils of that grade. Table VII shows that 76 schools, or 52.8 per cent of the entire number, have such a regular practice while 55, or 38.2 per cent, have not. No answer was received from 13 schools, indicating probably a lack of any definite policy in the matter.

TABLE VII

THE EXTENT TO WHICH TEACHERS REMAIN IN HOMEROOMS  
OF THE SAME GRADE IN 144 HIGH SCHOOLS  
WHICH REPORTED THAT TEACHERS CHANGE  
ROOM GROUPS EACH SEMESTER OR YEAR

	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Number of schools reporting that teachers remain with pupils of the same grade	76	52.8
Number of schools reporting that they have no regular policy of keeping teachers with pupils of the same grade	55	38.2
No answer	<u>13</u>	<u>9.0</u>
Total	144	100.0

#### The Frequency of Homeroom Sessions

The frequency with which homerooms assembly is shown in Table VIII. A scattered number of schools, 9 in all, report meetings less frequent than every day while 90 schools, or 56.2 per cent, report a daily assembly of the homeroom group. Twelve schools range





through 6, 7, 8, and 9 meetings with 32, or 20 per cent, reporting 10 such meetings. Seven schools reported 15 meetings per week, and 1 reported 20. Nine schools failed to answer the question.

TABLE VIII

THE FREQUENCY WITH WHICH HOMEROOM GROUPS  
ASSEMBLE IN 160 HIGH SCHOOLS

Number of Different Home- room Periods Per Week	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
One	2	1.3
Two	1	0.6
Three	3	1.9
Four	3	1.9
Five	90	56.2
Six	7	4.4
Seven	2	1.3
Eight	3	1.9
Nine	0	0.0
Ten	32	20.0
Fifteen	7	4.4
Twenty	1	0.6
No answer	<u>9</u>	<u>5.5</u>
Total	160	100.0

The schools reporting 10, 15 and 20 meetings per week were schools in which were included the time at the start and at the close of the day, as well as just before





or after recess or lunch period, when pupils return to the homeroom only momentarily. There is some doubt as to whether the schools reporting less than a daily meeting have made their reports on the same basis as the others, since most of them also reported attendance-taking as one of the duties of the room teacher. The evidence seems to be that in practically all schools the group gets together at least once during the school day for some purpose.

#### The Length of Homeroom Periods

Table IX shows the number of minutes per week devoted to homeroom activity. This ranges from 20-29 minutes in 14 schools at one end of the list to 220-229 minutes in 2 schools at the other end, with schools listed in practically all of the 10 minute intervals between these two extremes. There seems to be no central tendency whatever, the largest number, 25 schools, or 15.5 per cent, falling into the 50-59 minute group, the median being in the 70-79 minute interval, and the average being between 85 and 95 minutes. These figures are of little value because of the fact that the schools with one, two and three daily homeroom sessions are scattered all through the table. Many of the figures in the lower part of the table undoubtedly represent a period of only several minutes in length, used entirely for attendance purposes.





TABLE IX

NUMBER OF MINUTES PER WEEK DEVOTED TO HOME-  
ROOM ACTIVITIES IN 160 HIGH SCHOOLS

Number of Minutes Per Week	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
20-29	14	8.7
30-39	5	3.1
40-49	15	9.4
50-59	25	15.5
60-69	11	6.9
70-79	18	11.3
80-89	7	4.4
90-99	1	0.6
100-109	10	6.3
110-119	3	1.9
120-129	9	5.6
130-139	3	1.9
140-149	1	0.6
150-159	3	1.9
160-169	0	0.0
170-179	3	1.9
180-189	0	0.0
190-199	0	0.0
200-209	13	8.1
210-219	3	1.9
220-229	2	1.3
No answer	<u>14</u>	<u>8.7</u>
Total	160	100.0





A further analysis was needed in order to ascertain which schools are allotting periods of sufficient length for more sustained work than would be possible in a 5 or 10-minute period at the beginning or end of the day. Twenty minutes was arbitrarily set as the shortest time that would be considered as such a period, and Table X shows the situation from this viewpoint.

TABLE X

THE NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOLS HAVING A HOMEROOM PERIOD  
OF 20 MINUTES OR LONGER, AND THE FREQUENCY  
WITH WHICH THESE PERIODS ARE HELD

Frequency of Lengthened Periods	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Daily	29	18.1
Four times each week	2	1.3
Three times each week	6	3.8
Twice each week	6	3.8
Weekly	29	18.1
Bi-weekly	3	1.8
Monthly	2	1.3
Irregularly	5	3.1
Total number having some lengthened period	82	51.3
None	<u>78</u>	<u>48.7</u>
Total	160	100.0

The 160 schools are almost evenly divided, 82, or 51.3 per cent, having such periods, and 78, or 48.7 per cent, reporting to the contrary. When frequency of meet-



A further analysis was made in order to determine the relative importance of the various factors in the determination of the results of the study. The results of this analysis are given in Table I. The results show that the most important factor in the determination of the results of the study is the nature of the work. The results also show that the nature of the work is the most important factor in the determination of the results of the study.

TABLE I

The results of the study are given in Table I. The results show that the most important factor in the determination of the results of the study is the nature of the work. The results also show that the nature of the work is the most important factor in the determination of the results of the study.	
Factor	Percentage
1. Nature of the work	45.2
2. Nature of the work	35.1
3. Nature of the work	25.3
4. Nature of the work	15.4
5. Nature of the work	10.0
6. Nature of the work	5.0
7. Nature of the work	2.0
8. Nature of the work	1.0
9. Nature of the work	0.5
10. Nature of the work	0.2
Total	100.0

The results of the study are given in Table I. The results show that the most important factor in the determination of the results of the study is the nature of the work. The results also show that the nature of the work is the most important factor in the determination of the results of the study.

ing is considered, 29 schools, or 18.1 per cent of the entire 160, are found to hold these extended sessions daily, 2, or 1.3 per cent, have 4 each week, 6, or 3.8 per cent, have 3, and the same number have 2. The weekly session is the practice in 29 schools, or 18.1 per cent, while 3 schools, or 1.8 per cent, reported bi-weekly meetings, and 2, or 1.3 per cent, monthly meetings. There were 5 schools which reported long periods at irregular intervals. Out of the 82 schools reporting such periods, 72 have at least one each week.

TABLE XI

THE LENGTH OF THE EXTENDED HOMEROOM PERIOD  
IN 82 HIGH SCHOOLS REPORTING SUCH PERIODS

Number of Minutes	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
20-24	5	6.1
25-29	8	9.7
30-34	7	8.5
35-39	10	12.3
40-44	35	42.7
45-49	11	13.5
50-54	4	4.8
55-59	0	0.0
60-64	1	1.2
65-69	0	0.0
70-75	<u>1</u>	<u>1.2</u>
Total	82	100.0

The length of these periods, as indicated in Table XI, varies from 20 to 75 minutes. The most common length is





from 40 to 44 minutes, 35 schools, or 42.7 per cent of the 82, having such periods, reporting this length. The median also lies in this interval, and the average lies just below it. One finds 56 schools, or 68.5 per cent of the 82, with periods between 35 and 49 minutes each, so it would seem that in most schools this lengthened session represents a regular period of the schedule.

#### The Time of the Homeroom Period

The schools which devote a special period to the activities of the homeroom are not agreed as to the time of day in which it should come.

TABLE XII

THE TIME DURING THE SCHOOL DAY IN WHICH LENGTHENED HOMEROOM PERIODS ARE HELD IN 82 HIGH SCHOOLS

Place in the Daily Schedule	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Beginning of day	43	52.5
Third period	6	7.3
Fourth period	1	1.2
Fifth period	2	2.4
Sixth period	1	1.2
Before or after lunch period	13	15.8
At close of school	11	13.5
Irregularly	<u>5</u>	<u>6.1</u>
Total	82	100.0

Table XII shows that 43 of them, or 52.5 per cent, place it at the beginning of the day, and 11, or 13.5 per cent, at the close of the day. The break offered by the





lunch period is utilized in 13 schools, or 15.8 per cent, some reporting the time just before it, some just after it, and some, with several lunch periods, assigning part of the school to homeroom sessions while the other part is in the lunch room, reversing the process for the other half of the lunch recess. These, however, are often schools which apparently use this 20 to 30 minute period daily for study or routine purposes. Still other schools reported the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth periods as homeroom time, the third being mentioned most frequently. Five schools reported that their irregular periods are not given a fixed place in the schedule.

#### Homeroom Officers and Committees

With less than half of the schools making the homeroom a place for the practice of citizenship, one is not surprised at the information yielded by Table XIII, which shows the number of schools in which homeroom officers are elected.

TABLE XIII

#### THE NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOLS IN WHICH HOMEROOM OFFICERS ARE ELECTED

	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Number of schools electing homeroom officers	90	56.3
Number of schools in which no homeroom officers are elected	70	43.7
Total	160	100.0





Here again, they are quite evenly divided, 90, or 56.3 per cent, reporting the practice of electing officers and 70, or 43.7 per cent, reporting no such practice.

Table XIV shows the officers which are elected in the 90 schools reporting a system of room officers. The most common official is the Student Council representative, elected in 67, or 74.4 per cent, of these 90 schools. Presidents are naturally the most common aside from this representative, being found in 49 schools, or 54.4 per cent. Some of the others listed in the table are obviously presiding officers under other names. Vice-presidents are slightly less frequent, holding office in 44 schools, or 48.8 per cent. Secretaries are somewhat more common being elected in 47 schools, or 52.2 per cent, with treasurers dropping off to 41 schools, or 45.6 per cent, although 4 schools report the last two offices combined into one. Seven schools, or 7.7 per cent, have thrift officers while another reported a banker. Eight schools, or 8.8 per cent, have ticket-sellers. Only 1 school has a chaplain. Two schools have cheer-leaders in each room. Three call their presiding officer the chairman, and 2 have marshalls. Two have a representative of the school paper. A variety of names - vice-chairman, collector, director, captain, lieutenant, recorder, manager, assistant manager, Red Cross representative, traffic officer, news reporter, director of student activity and general organization agent, all appear once each and are



There are, then, two groups evenly divided, 50, at  
10.1 per cent, reporting the practice of electrical af-  
fairs and 50, or 49.9 per cent, reporting no such  
practice.

Table IV shows the efficiency which was obtained in

the 50 schools reporting a system of vocal efficiency. The  
most common efficiency in the 50 schools was 100 per cent.

Five, reported 100, or 10.1 per cent, of these 50

schools. Efficiency was actually the most common among

from this representative, being found in 10 schools, or

20.1 per cent. Some of the schools listed in the table

are especially good in efficiency under other names. Five

principals are slightly less efficient, being 95 per cent.

at schools, or 49.9 per cent. Efficiency was actually

more common being found in 10 schools, or 20.1 per cent,

with efficiency reported in 10 schools, or 20.1 per

cent, although 4 schools report the fact that no other was

found in any. Seven schools, or 14.1 per cent, have

100 per cent efficiency while another reported a 95 per cent.

efficiency, or 10.1 per cent, and 10 schools, or 20.1

schools have a 90 per cent. The schools have been listed in

each case. This will show that the 50 schools are

very good in efficiency. The have a representative of

the school system. A variety of names - vocal efficiency,

efficiency, efficiency, efficiency, efficiency, efficiency,

efficiency, efficiency, and these representative, results of

them, were reported, showing the highest efficiency and

highest representative results, all schools were good and

TABLE XIV

THE HOMEROOM OFFICERS ELECTED IN 90 HIGH SCHOOLS  
REPORTING SUCH ELECTIONS

Title of Office	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Representative to student council	67	74.4
President	49	54.4
Vice president	44	48.8
Secretary	47	52.2
Treasurer	41	45.6
Secretary-treasurer, combined	4	4.4
Cheer leader	2	2.2
Thrift officer	7	7.7
Ticket seller	8	8.8
Chaplain	1	1.1
Banker	1	1.1
Chairman	3	3.3
Vice chairman	1	1.1
Collector	1	1.1
Director	1	1.1
Marshall	2	2.2
Captain	1	1.1
Lieutenant	1	1.1
Recorder	1	1.1
Manager	1	1.1
Assistant manager	1	1.1
Representative to Red Cross	1	1.1





TABLE XIV

(continued)

THE HOMEROOM OFFICERS ELECTED IN 90 HIGH SCHOOLS  
REPORTING SUCH ELECTIONS

Title of Office	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Representative to school magazine	2	2.2
Traffic officer	1	1.1
News reporter	1	1.1
Director of student activity society	1	1.1
General organization agent	1	1.1
Varying from room to room	3	3.3

self-explanatory. Three schools reported that the of-  
ficers vary from room to room.

TABLE XV

THE STATUS OF STUDENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES  
IN 67 HIGH SCHOOLS REPORTING THE HOMEROOM  
AS THE BASIS OF ELECTION TO THIS BODY

Status of Representative	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
President serves as student council representative	13	19.4
Special officer serves	44 ,	65.7
Both president and special officer serve	1	1.5
No answer	<u>9</u>	<u>13.4</u>
Total	67	100.0

In the 67 schools which use the homeroom as a basis  
for representation in the Student Council, the homeroom



TABLE XIV

(continued)

THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
 ELECTED IN 1934

Field of Office	Number of Members	Percentage of Total
Representative in Congress	5	10.2
Executive Officer	1	1.9
State Senator	1	1.9
Member of National Assembly	1	1.9
General or Executive Agent	1	1.9
Other	2	3.8

NOTE: The above figures are based on the number of members of the House of Representatives elected in 1934. The total number of members of the House of Representatives is 100.

TABLE XV

THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
 ELECTED IN 1934  
 BY THE METHOD OF ELECTION TO THE BODY

Method of Election	Number of Members	Percentage of Total
General election	25	25.0
Special election	25	25.0
Other	1	1.0
Total	51	51.0

NOTE: The above figures are based on the number of members of the House of Representatives elected in 1934. The total number of members of the House of Representatives is 100.

is represented by the presiding officer in 13, or 19.4 per cent, according to Table XV. A special officer is elected in 44 schools, or 65.7 per cent of the cases. In one school, both the president and a special representative serve in this capacity. Nine schools failed to answer the question.

TABLE XVI

THE TENURE OF HOMEROOM OFFICERS IN 90 HIGH SCHOOLS  
REPORTING THE ELECTION OF SUCH OFFICERS

Length of Term of Office	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
One semester	9	10.0
One year	78	86.7
No answer	<u>3</u>	<u>3.3</u>
Total	90	100.0

Table XVI shows that these officers are usually elected for one year, this being true in 78 cases, or 86.7 per cent of the number electing officers. One semester is the term in 9 schools, or 10 per cent. Three schools made no reply. One wonders if the practice of annual, rather than the semi-annual elections, is not losing one-half the opportunity for sharing the citizenship responsibilities of the group.

A similar opportunity seems to be overlooked in the situation shown in Table XVII which indicates the practice with respect to homeroom committees. Only 54 schools, or 33.8 per cent, have such committees, 106,





or 66.2 per cent, being without them.

TABLE XVII

THE NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOLS IN WHICH  
HOMEROOM COMMITTEES ARE ELECTED

	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Number of schools electing homeroom committees	54	33.8
Number of schools in which no homeroom committees are elected	106	66.2
Total	160	100.0

These committees are listed in Table XVIII and are of great variety. Twenty-five different kinds of committees are mentioned. The most common are those appointed for special programs, found in 23 schools, or 42.6 per cent of the 54 reporting the use of committee organization. Second place is given to the housekeeping committee, appearing in 20 schools, or 37 per cent. Athletic committees are found in 18 schools, or 33.3 per cent, and social committees in 16, or 29.6 per cent. There is a wide gap between these four and the others ranging in order through the following: publicity - 9, thrift - 8, citizenship - 8, welfare - 7, dramatics - 7, literary - 6, scholarship - 5, discipline - 5, current events - 4, manners and conduct - 3, health - 3, debating - 3, booster - 2, excursions - 2, charity - 2, lunch-room - 2, bulletin board - 1, general - 1, sick - 1,





TABLE XVIII

THE HOMEROOM COMMITTEES ELECTED IN 54 HIGH SCHOOLS  
REPORTING THIS PRACTICE, ARRANGED  
IN ORDER OF FREQUENCY

Name of Committee	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Special programs	23	42.6
Good housekeeping	20	37.0
Athletics	18	33.3
Social	16	29.6
Publicity	9	16.6
Thrift	8	14.8
Citizenship	8	14.8
Welfare	7	13.0
Dramatics	7	13.0
Literary	6	11.1
Scholarship	5	9.2
Discipline	5	9.2
Current events	4	7.4
Manners and conduct	3	5.5
Health	3	5.5
Debating	3	5.5
Booster	2	3.7
Excursions	2	3.7
Charity	2	3.7
Lunchroom	2	3.7
Bulletin board	1	1.8
General	1	1.8
Sick	1	1.8
Statistics	1	1.8
School paper	1	1.8
Varies from room to room	1	1.8



# TABLE VIII

THE WINDS OF THE NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN  
AS OBSERVED AT THE STATION OF THE  
U. S. NAVY, PUEBLO, CALIFORNIA

Direction of Wind	Number of Days	Force of Wind
North	1	1.0
North by East	1	1.0
North East	1	1.0
East by North	1	1.0
East	1	1.0
East by South	1	1.0
South East	1	1.0
South by East	1	1.0
South	1	1.0
South by West	1	1.0
South West	1	1.0
West by South	1	1.0
West	1	1.0
West by North	1	1.0
North West	1	1.0
North by West	1	1.0
North	1	1.0
North by East	1	1.0
North East	1	1.0
East by North	1	1.0
East	1	1.0
East by South	1	1.0
South East	1	1.0
South by East	1	1.0
South	1	1.0
South by West	1	1.0
South West	1	1.0
West by South	1	1.0
West	1	1.0
West by North	1	1.0
North West	1	1.0
North by West	1	1.0
North	1	1.0

statistics - 1, and school paper - 1. One school reported that committees vary from room to room. The only committee mentioned in the questionnaire which was not checked by some school was the art committee.

### Summary

The homeroom in Massachusetts high schools is most commonly a group of 30 to 40 pupils of both sexes from the same class, arranged alphabetically in the larger schools, and frequently, when the size of the school warrants further refinement of classification, by curriculums. Occasionally the sexes are separated.

It is presided over by a teacher who usually remains one year with the group and who in about half the schools is assigned for the following year to another group of the same grade, thus securing some degree of expertness in the problems of a single grade. In a few schools, an effort is being made to secure continuity of guidance by keeping the same teacher with a given group throughout its entire school career.

In practically all schools, these room groups assemble at least once daily, often two or even three times although in nearly half of the schools they meet for only a few minutes each time. This is in keeping with the data in the previous chapter, showing an administrative objective in practically all schools and a guidance objective for only about half of them.





Slightly over half of the schools have somewhere in the schedule a homeroom period of at least 20 minutes in length. In over two-thirds of these schools, the length of this period is between 35 and 50 minutes, probably a regular period. In most of the schools, this homeroom period comes at least weekly and half of them have it more frequently, over one-third having it daily. It is held most commonly at the beginning of the day, although it may less frequently come at lunch time or at the close of the session.

Somewhat over half of the schools have homeroom officers, these being president, vice president, secretary and treasurer in about 50 per cent of the cases. Many schools have only officers for particular duties, such as ticket-selling. Two-thirds of these schools, or almost 40 per cent of the entire number, use the homeroom as a basis of representation in the Student Council, and two-thirds of these in turn elect special officers while most of the others let the room president represent them in the legislative body. These officers serve for one year, although a few change every semester.

Only about one-third of the schools make use of homeroom committees, the most common being committees for special programs, good housekeeping, athletics and social activities. Each of these appear in about one-third of this limited number.





## CHAPTER VI

THE ACTIVITIES OF THE HOMEROOM  
IN MASSACHUSETTS HIGH SCHOOLS

An analysis of the activities carried on in the homeroom period should give some indication of the extent to which schools are trying to attain the objectives claimed. A request was made for copies of any mimeographed or printed materials that might serve to show just what is done in the homeroom period, but as is revealed in Table XIX, such materials are almost non-existent in the high schools of Massachusetts.

TABLE XIX

THE NUMBER OF SCHOOLS WHICH HAVE MANUALS  
OR OTHER FORMS OF PREPARED MATERIAL  
INDICATING THEIR HOMEROOM ACTIVITIES

Kind of Material	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Manuals	12	7.5
Bulletins	10	6.3
None	<u>138</u>	<u>86.2</u>
Total	160	100.0

Of the 160 schools reporting homerooms, only 22, or 13.8 per cent, stated that they had any material such as was requested. About half of this number stated that the material was in the form of bulletins. Material of this sort was received by the writer from 13 schools, including his own. One of these sent a printed handbook, another a





printed pamphlet of "General Regulations", 2 included mimeographed handbooks for orientation purposes, while 7 sent mimeographed instruction sheets describing the administrative procedure for homeroom teachers and listing the other duties usually expected of such teachers. Most of them included also suggestions for aiding in the orientation of new pupils. Two schools sent in a list of the topics assigned for the homeroom periods during the year. One school forwarded two mimeographed sheets of questions, leading to a discussion of certain problems of social conduct. The material from one school consisted of several printed leaflets for character development. One school sent in outlines for case conference discussions pointing to the character training objective, prepared for its junior rather than its senior high school. Not one manual worked out in the form of definite assignments planned for specific objectives was found anywhere in the material received except that used in the freshman year in the writer's own school. This situation might imply that the activities of the homeroom are so limited that no elaborate instructions are necessary or that the planning is left to the teacher.

#### The Planning and Control of the Homeroom Program

Table XX shows somewhat more clearly the agencies which determine the activities carried on in the homeroom.





TABLE XX

THE AGENCIES WHICH DETERMINE THE ACTIVITIES  
OF THE HOMEROOM PERIOD IN 160 HIGH SCHOOLS

By Whom Determined	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
The individual teacher	46	28.7
The principal alone	32	20.0
A combination of the principal and teachers, either indi- vidually or in committees, without the assistance of pupils	24	15.0
A combination of principal, teachers and pupils	22	13.7
A combination of teachers and pupils, without the prin- cipal	9	5.6
The teacher and the room com- mittee	6	3.8
A committee of teachers	6	3.8
The pupils alone	0	0.0
No answer	<u>15</u>	<u>9.4</u>
Total	160	100.0

This responsibility lies most frequently with the individual teacher alone, a situation which prevails in 46 cases, or 28.7 per cent of the total. The principal alone is the determining agent in 32 schools, or 20 per cent. In 24 schools, 15 per cent, this planning is either done jointly by the principal and the individual teacher or is divided between them. There is nothing in the replies to indicate which situation exists, although





it seems likely that some activities are specified by the principal and others are dependent on the initiative of the teacher. The pupil appears in the picture in 22 schools, or 13.7 per cent, which reported principal, teacher and pupils all involved in the determination of activities, in 9 schools, or 5.6 per cent, where the teacher and pupils without the principal are active, and in 6 schools, or 3.8 per cent, where the teacher and a committee of pupils confer on plans. A committee of teachers is the determining body in 6 schools. In no case is the planning entirely in the hands of the pupils. Fifteen schools did not reply. It is significant to note that in only about one-quarter of the schools do the pupils have any share in the planning of the program.

TABLE XXI

THE EXTENT TO WHICH PUPILS PARTICIPATE  
IN PLANNING THE HOMEROOM PROGRAM  
IN 160 HIGH SCHOOLS

	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Always	7	4.4
Usually	22	13.8
Frequently	23	14.3
Seldom	36	22.5
Never	36	22.5
No answer	<u>36</u>	<u>22.5</u>
Total	160	100.0



it seems likely that some activities are specified by the principal and others are dependent on the initiative of the teacher. The pupil appears in the picture in 25 schools, or 15.7 per cent, which represents 21 per cent of the total. In 2 schools, or 1.3 per cent, where the teacher and pupils all involved in the determination of activities, in 3 schools, or 1.8 per cent, where the teacher and pupils without the principal are active, and in 4 schools, or 2.5 per cent, where the teacher and a committee of pupils decide on plans. A committee of teachers is the determining body in 5 schools. It is in the planning activity in the hands of the pupils. Fifteen schools did not reply. It is significant to note that in only about one-quarter of the schools do the pupils have any share in the planning of the program.

TABLE XII

THE EXTENT TO WHICH PUPILS PARTICIPATE  
IN PLANNING THE WORKING PROGRAM  
IN THE SCHOOLS

Extent of participation	Number of schools	Percentage of total
Always	7	4.1
Usually	21	12.5
Frequently	25	14.3
Seldom	27	15.0
Never	33	18.3
No answer	15	8.3
Total	150	100.0

The same situation is suggested by Table XXI which answers the same question when asked from a different angle. Seven schools, or 4.4 per cent, reported that the pupils always participate in the planning of the homeroom program, 22, or 13.8 per cent, that they usually participate and 23, or 14.3 per cent, that they frequently participate. Those in 36 schools, 22.5 per cent, seldom have a hand in the planning, and in the same number of schools, pupils are never consulted. No answer was received from 36 schools. These two tables are evidence that little is being done in the way of attempting to make the homeroom activities meet the needs of the pupils as expressed by the pupils themselves.

TABLE XXII

THE EXTENT TO WHICH PUPILS PRESIDE OVER HOMEROOM  
SESSIONS IN 160 HIGH SCHOOLS

	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Always	9	5.6
Usually	21	13.1
Frequently	30	18.8
Seldom	27	16.9
Never	39	24.4
No answer	<u>34</u>	<u>21.2</u>
Total	160	100.0

Closely corresponding percentages are found in Table XXII, showing the extent to which pupils preside



1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for the transparency and accountability of the organization. This section also outlines the various methods used to collect and analyze data, ensuring that the information is reliable and up-to-date.

2. The second part of the document focuses on the implementation of the proposed changes. It details the steps involved in the transition process, from the initial planning phase to the final execution. This section also addresses the potential challenges that may arise during the implementation and provides strategies to overcome them.

3. The third part of the document discusses the long-term impact of the changes. It highlights the expected benefits, such as improved efficiency and cost savings, and provides a timeline for when these benefits are anticipated to be realized. This section also includes a discussion on the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the changes to ensure they are meeting the intended goals.

4. The fourth part of the document provides a summary of the key findings and conclusions. It reiterates the importance of the changes and the commitment of the organization to their successful implementation. This section also includes a list of recommendations for future actions and a final statement of intent.

over homeroom sessions. Here again, the teacher domination is evident, 9 schools, or 5.6 per cent, reporting that pupils always preside, 21, or 13.1 per cent, that they usually preside, and 30, or 18.8 per cent, that they frequently preside. They seldom preside in 27 schools, or 16.9 per cent, and never take charge in 39, or 24.4 per cent. Again, 34 schools failed to reply. This is not an unexpected showing in view of the fact that only 41.2 per cent of the schools make any claim to the citizenship participation objective.

TABLE XXIII

THE EXTENT TO WHICH PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE IS FOLLOWED  
IN HOMEROOM SESSIONS IN 160 HIGH SCHOOLS

	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Always	9	5.6
Usually	29	18.1
Frequently	14	8.8
Seldom	31	19.4
Never	27	16.9
No answer	<u>50</u>	<u>31.2</u>
Total	160	100.0

Training in conducting meetings according to parliamentary practice is given to some extent in many of the schools, as shown in Table XXIII. This procedure is always followed in 9 schools, 5.6 per cent, usually in 29 schools, 18.1 per cent, frequently in 14 schools, 8.8



The first of these is the fact that the  
 population of the country is increasing  
 rapidly. This is due to a number of  
 causes, including a high birth rate,  
 a low death rate, and a large influx  
 of immigrants. The second is the fact  
 that the country is becoming more  
 industrialized. This is due to the  
 growth of manufacturing and mining  
 industries. The third is the fact  
 that the country is becoming more  
 urbanized. This is due to the growth  
 of cities and towns.

### TABLE I

THE TABLE SHOWS THE PERCENTAGE OF THE  
 POPULATION IN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING  
 CATEGORIES:

Category	Percentage
Urban	55
Rural	45
Industrial	30
Non-industrial	70
White	85
Black	15
Hispanic	2
Other	2
Total	100

The table shows that the majority of the  
 population is urban and non-industrial.  
 This is due to the fact that the  
 majority of the population is white.  
 The majority of the population is also  
 non-industrial. This is due to the  
 fact that the majority of the  
 population is white.

per cent, seldom in 31 schools, 19.4 per cent, and never in 27 schools, 16.9 per cent. No reply came from 50 schools.

It is evident that in most schools the homeroom period is teacher-planned, teacher-motivated, and teacher-conducted. This, of course, is to be expected in the performance of the administrative functions of the room, and it must be remembered that this is the chief function in a large percentage of schools.

#### The Administrative Activities of the Homeroom

Just as the administrative objective is the most common among the purposes of the homeroom, there is more widespread agreement as to the activities performed during this phase of the work than during any other. Although there were a few schools that did not check this objective, there were scarcely any that did not check some of the items listed among the functions directed toward it, so that Table XXIV shows the situation relative to the entire 160 schools.

In 141 schools, or 88.1 per cent, the checking of attendance is a regular part of homeroom procedure. It is perhaps a little surprising that this is not a unanimous duty of all rooms. Next in frequency is the reading of group notices from the office, presumably the daily bulletin, or similar communications. This duty is performed in 133 schools, or 83.1 per cent. Report cards are distribut-





TABLE XXIV

THE ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS PERFORMED IN THE HOMEROOMS  
IN 160 HIGH SCHOOLS, ARRANGED IN ORDER OF FREQUENCY

	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Checking attendance	141	88.1
Reading group notices from the office	133	83.1
Distributing report cards	120	75.0
Obtaining information requested by the office	109	68.1
Conveying notices from the office to individual pupils	103	64.4
Holding subscription drives, etc.	101	63.1
Performing registration duties at the beginning of the school year	98	61.3
Serving as voting places for class and school officers	95	59.4
Registering pupils for next year's classes	79	49.4
Distributing books and supplies	74	46.3
Recording marks on the report cards	52	32.5
Health inspections	52	32.5
School banking	35	21.9
Recording marks on office records	32	20.0
Disciplinary action	29	18.1
Morning exercises	3	1.9
Tax collection	2	1.3
Sport talks	1	0.6
Keeping room orderly and neat	1	0.6
Beautifying the homeroom	1	0.6



# TABLE 1

THE FOLLOWING TABLES SHOW THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY OF THE  
IN THE YEAR 1960, IN ORDER OF PRIORITY

TABLE 1  
RESULTS OF THE SURVEY OF THE

100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
95.0	95.0	95.0	95.0
90.0	90.0	90.0	90.0
85.0	85.0	85.0	85.0
80.0	80.0	80.0	80.0
75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0
70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0
65.0	65.0	65.0	65.0
60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0
55.0	55.0	55.0	55.0
50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0
45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0
40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0
35.0	35.0	35.0	35.0
30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0
25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0
20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

TABLE XXIV

(continued)

THE ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS PERFORMED IN THE HOMEROOMS  
IN 160 HIGH SCHOOLS, ARRANGED IN ORDER OF FREQUENCY

	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Weekly spelling lessons	1	0.6
Monthly declamations	1	0.6
Checking marks on report cards	1	0.6
Others not specified	2	1.3
No answer	7	4.4

ed in 120 cases, or 75 per cent. The various items of information requested by the office are secured through this medium in 109, or 68.1 per cent of the schools, while individual pupils receive notices and other communications from the office in this way in 103 cases, or 64.4 per cent. Subscription drives are homeroom functions in 101 schools, or 63.1 per cent of the total. The homeroom is the place for registering pupils at the start of the school year in 98, or 63.1 per cent of the schools, and serves as a voting place for class and school elections in 95 instances, or 59.4 per cent. In 79 schools, 49.4 per cent, the task of registering pupils for the subjects to be taken in the following school year is performed in the homeroom. Textbooks and other supplies are distributed through this medium in 74 cases, 46.3 per cent. The homeroom teacher in 52 schools, or 32.5 per





cent, records marks on the pupils' report cards, and in the same number of cases conducts health inspections from time to time. School banking is a function in 35, or 21.9 per cent of the schools studied. In 32 schools, 20 per cent, the teacher also records the marks of his homeroom pupils on the office records, and in 29 schools, 18.1 per cent, he has some disciplinary duties as well. The other duties performed are carried on in only occasional cases, morning exercises being reported in 3, and collection of student tax in 2, while sport talks, keeping room orderly and neat, beautifying the homeroom, weekly spelling lessons, monthly declamations, and checking marks on report cards were mentioned in one each. Two schools reported others, without specifying what they are, and 7 schools made no reply.

#### The Group Activities of the Homeroom

Table XXV is intended to show the group activities that are carried on in the homerooms of Massachusetts high schools, and should be some indication of the extent to which group guidance is being attempted. Only two activities are common to over one-half of the schools reporting, but this is to be expected because the schools vary greatly in their homeroom objectives. Considered in conjunction with Table III, the results indicate a fairly consistent effort to meet the objectives claimed.





TABLE XXV

THE GROUP ACTIVITIES CARRIED ON IN THE HOMEROOMS OF  
160 HIGH SCHOOLS, ARRANGED IN ORDER OF FREQUENCY

	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Discussion or explanation of curricular offerings	101	63.1
Explanation of school customs and regulations not included in such a handbook	92	57.5
Discussion of higher institutions	61	38.1
Discussion of how to study	60	37.5
Discussion of manners and social conventions	59	36.9
Discussion of citizenship traits	58	36.3
Programs in observance of special days	51	31.9
Discussion of student council legislation	48	30.0
Discussion of character traits and personality	40	25.0
Programs of entertainment	39	24.4
Discussion of budgeting of time	39	24.4
Discussion of vocational op- portunities	37	23.1
Discussion of qualifications of good school officers	35	21.9
Discussion of health problems	28	17.5
Discussion of leisure time op- portunities of the school	28	17.5
Study of school handbook or other manual	27	16.9
Discussion of thrift	26	16.3



TABLE IV

THE DATA ACTIVITIES LISTED IN THE MARGINS OF  
THE FIRST COLUMN, ARRANGED IN ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

Activity	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
1. Identification of school problems	101	88.1
2. Identification of school problems and suggestions for solution in each school	58	50.8
3. Discussion of school problems	51	44.1
4. Discussion of how to study	50	43.5
5. Discussion of school and social problems	50	43.5
6. Discussion of educational trends	48	41.7
7. Review of objectives of school	44	38.6
8. Discussion of student's social adjustment	40	34.8
9. Discussion of educational trends and objectives	40	34.8
10. Review of school adjustment	38	33.1
11. Review of objectives of school	37	32.4
12. Discussion of educational trends and objectives	37	32.4
13. Discussion of educational trends and objectives	36	31.2
14. Discussion of school problems	35	30.5
15. Discussion of school problems and objectives	35	30.5
16. Discussion of school problems and objectives	35	30.5
17. Discussion of school problems and objectives	35	30.5
18. Discussion of school problems and objectives	35	30.5
19. Discussion of school problems and objectives	35	30.5
20. Discussion of school problems and objectives	35	30.5

TABLE XXV

(continued)

THE GROUP ACTIVITIES CARRIED ON IN THE HOMEROOMS OF  
160 HIGH SCHOOLS, ARRANGED IN ORDER OF FREQUENCY

	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Discussion of leisure time opportunities of the community	20	12.5
Case conferences on moral problems	18	11.3
Outside speakers on vocational subjects	15	9.4
Preparation for assemblies	1	0.6
Outside speakers	1	0.6
Others not specified	4	2.5
None	5	3.1
No answer	23	14.4

Orientation, for example, is an objective in 56.3 per cent of the schools. Table XXV shows that 92, or 57.5 per cent, have, as part of the homeroom program, an explanation of school customs and regulations while 27, or 16.9 per cent, study the school handbook.

Educational guidance is an objective in 51.3 per cent of the schools, and discussions of curriculum offerings are included in the activities of 101 schools, or 63.1 per cent. Higher institutions are considered in 61 cases, 38.1 per cent, and discussions of how to study and how to budget the pupil's time are held in



TABLE XIV

(continued)

THE ABOVE ACTIVITIES CARRIED ON IN THE MONTHS OF  
1950 WITH CHANGES, ARRANGED IN ORDER OF FREQUENCY

Percentage of total of students	Percentage of total of students	Percentage of total of students
12.5	10	Discussions of literature and presentations of the same
11.1	18	Group conferences on social problems
9.4	15	Individual assignments on various subjects
8.2	1	Participation in competitions
7.8	1	Individual assignments
6.8	4	Others not specified
5.1	5	None
4.4	25	No answer

Orientation, for example, is an objective in 12.5 per cent of the schools. Table XIV shows that 25, or 27.8 per cent, gave no part of the activities reported, an explanation of which is given in the discussion with 25, or 27.8 per cent, giving the report. Individual assignments is an objective in 11.1 per cent of the schools, and discussions of various subjects are included in the activities of 10.0 schools, or 11.1 per cent. Group conferences and competitions in 9.4 and 8.2 per cent, and discussions of how to study and how to prepare the paper are held in

60 and 39 schools respectively, or 37.5 per cent and 24.4 per cent of the total number.

The vocational guidance objective was checked by 26.9 per cent of the schools while 37, or 35.1 per cent, reported the corresponding activity to be discussion of vocational opportunities, with 15 schools, or 9.4 per cent, reporting the practice of bringing in outside speakers on vocational topics. It is quite possible that some schools did not distinguish clearly between educational and vocational objectives or activities as they undoubtedly overlap in many instances.

While 41.9 per cent of all the schools claimed the objective of social guidance, 59, or 36.9 per cent, reported discussions of manners and social conventions. Moral guidance is an objective in 38.8 per cent, with 40, or 25 per cent, indicating that they hold discussions on character traits and personality, and 18, or 11.3 per cent, report case conferences on moral problems. The health guidance objective, checked in 31.3 per cent of the cases, is contrasted with the activity of health discussion reported in 28 cases, or 17.5 per cent, although it is also true that, according to Table XXIV, 32.5 per cent reported health inspections as an administrative function. The 28 schools, 17.5 per cent, which discussed the leisure time opportunities of the school, and the 20, or 12.5 per cent, which also con-



40 and 50 schools respectively, or 57.5 per cent and

5.4 per cent of the total sample.

The vocational guidance subjects are shown by

50.5 per cent of the schools while 57.5 per cent, or 5.4

per cent of the schools reported no vocational

of vocational opportunities, with 11 schools, or 5.4

per cent, reporting the presence of vocational oppor-

tunities in vocational subjects. It is quite pos-

sible that some schools did not distinguish clearly be-

tween educational and vocational subjects or possi-

bly as they undoubtedly group in any instance.

While 40.5 per cent of all the schools claimed the

objective of social guidance, 50, or 50.5 per cent, re-

ported absence of guidance and social opportunities.

Social guidance is not unique to 50.5 per cent, with

40, or 40.5 per cent, indicating that some schools dis-

claim no guidance in social and personal subjects, or 10, or

10.5 per cent, report some guidance in social and

personal subjects, or 10.5 per cent, or 10.5

per cent of the sample, a contrast with the majority

of health education reported in 50 schools, or 50.5 per

cent, although it is also true, according to Table

III, 50.5 per cent reported health opportunities in

educational subjects. The 50 schools, 50.5 per cent,

when discussed the reasons for the importance of the

school, and the 50, or 50.5 per cent, when also dis-

sidered the opportunities which the community offers in this respect, are not far from the 18.1 per cent which claimed the objective of recreational guidance.

The formulation of desirable public opinion was reported as an objective in 28.1 per cent of all the schools. There is no doubt that this purpose may be achieved to a considerable degree by the discussion of citizenship traits in 58 schools, or 36.3 per cent, the consideration of the qualifications of good school officers in 35, or 21.9 per cent, and the discussions about legislation passed or pending in the Student Council in 48 schools, or 30 per cent. These activities may also contribute to the objective of citizenship participation which was reported in 41.2 per cent of the schools.

Thrift discussions were reported in 26 schools, 16.3 per cent of the total. Programs in observance of special days are part of the homeroom activity in 51 schools, or 31.9 per cent, while in 39, or 24.4 per cent, programs that are frankly entertainment are frequently given. One school reported that homeroom time is given to the preparation of assembly programs, and one occasionally brings in outside speakers. Four reported other group activities which they did not specify and 5 reported that they have no group activities





whatever. No reply to the question came from 23 schools, or 14.4 per cent of the total.

#### Individual Counseling in the Homeroom

Similarly, the information yielded by Table XXVI showing the various types of individual counseling that are responsibilities of the homeroom teacher is of interest when compared with the objectives stated for this phase of the school's program.

The most common activity on this list is the conference on choice of subjects carried on in 105 schools, or 65.6 per cent of the total. Other types of educational guidance are the conferences on unsatisfactory marks held in 73 schools, or 45.6 per cent, those dealing with subject changes, a practice followed by 59, or 36.9 per cent of the schools, and those held with pupils who are making their choice of college or other institution, a responsibility that is attempted by the homeroom teacher in 50 cases, or 31.3 per cent. These percentages, when compared with the 51.3 per cent of the schools claiming the objective of educational guidance, indicate a considerable amount of effort on the part of high schools to do some real guidance of this sort through the medium of the homeroom. These are, of course, problems peculiarly suited to treatment by means of individual conference methods.



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TABLE XXVI

THE TYPES OF INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING THAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HOMEROOM TEACHERS IN 160 HIGH SCHOOLS, ARRANGED IN ORDER OF FREQUENCY

Types of Counseling	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Conferences on choice of subjects	105	65.6
Conferences on unsatisfactory marks	73	45.6
Conferences on subject changes	59	36.9
Conferences on higher institutions	50	31.3
Conferences on moral problems	44	27.5
Conferences on social problems	43	26.9
Adjustments between pupils and other teachers	40	25.0
Conferences on health habits	39	24.4
Conferences on vocational plans	29	18.1
Conferences on recreational or leisure time activities	12	7.5
Definite efforts at vocational placement	8	5.0
Conferences with parents	1	0.6
Others not specified	2	1.3
None	6	3.8
No answer	30	18.8

In the field of vocational guidance, avowed as a purpose by 26.9 per cent of the schools, there appears to be less of an effort to accomplish the aim through





individual counseling, 29 schools, or 18.1 per cent, holding conferences on vocational plans. Only 8 schools reported any effort at actual vocational placement.

Conferences on social problems were reported in 43 schools, or 26.9 per cent of the total, and on health problems in 39, or 24.4 per cent. Efforts to solve moral problems by means of individual conference with pupils were reported by 44 schools, or 27.5 per cent. Counseling on matters of recreation and leisure time is of concern to a relatively small number of schools, 12, or 7.5 per cent. In 40 schools, or 24 per cent, the homeroom teacher helps to adjust difficulties between his pupils and other teachers. One school reported conferences with parents as a duty of the homeroom teacher. Two reported that they have other conferences of types not specified. Six replied that the homeroom teacher is not responsible for any form of individual counseling, and 30, or 18.8 per cent of the total did not answer the question in any way.

#### Differentiation in Homeroom Activities

The definiteness of homeroom plans might be indicated somewhat by the extent to which the work is differentiated in the different grades of the school. Table XXVII shows that in only 40 schools, or 25 per cent, is there made any effort to differentiate in





either the objectives or activities. Making due allowance for the fact that many schools have only the administrative objective, it is evident that there is little conscious planning of the work carried on.

TABLE XXVII

THE NUMBER OF SCHOOLS WHICH MAKE AN EFFORT  
TO DIFFERENTIATE THE HOMEROOM OBJECTIVES  
AND ACTIVITIES IN DIFFERENT GRADES

	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Number of schools which attempt to differentiate	40	25.0
Number of schools which make no attempt to differentiate	107	66.9
No answer	<u>13</u>	<u>8.1</u>
Total	160	100.0

Homeroom Competitions

Over half of the schools utilize the homeroom as a basis for competition.

TABLE XXVIII

THE NUMBER OF SCHOOLS SETTING UP  
COMPETITIONS IN HOMEROOMS

	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Number of schools in which competitions are set up in homerooms	92	57.5
Number of schools in which no such competitions take place	61	38.1
No answer	<u>7</u>	<u>4.4</u>
Total	160	100.0





Table XXVIII reveals that 92, or 57.2 per cent of the entire number, have some competitions organized in this way, and Table XXIX lists the kinds of competition in use.

TABLE XXIX

THE COMPETITIONS WHICH ARE SET UP IN THE HOMEROOMS OF 92 HIGH SCHOOLS, ARRANGED IN ORDER OF FREQUENCY

Types of Competition	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Attendance	59	64.1
Athletics	51	55.4
Financial drives	50	54.3
Punctuality	49	53.2
Scholarship	36	39.1
Assembly programs	25	27.2
Thrift	14	15.2
Debating	8	8.7
Dramatics	4	4.3
Housekeeping	2	2.2
Clubs	1	1.1
Spelling	1	1.1
Setting-up drills	1	1.1
School paper subscriptions	1	1.1
Literary magazine	1	1.1
General participation in extra-curricular activities	1	1.1

Most common are attendance competitions in 59 schools, or 64.1 per cent of the 92 answering the pre-



Table XIII shows the results of the analysis of the samples collected from the various sources, and the results are given in the following table.

TABLE XIII

THE ANALYSIS OF THE SAMPLES COLLECTED FROM THE VARIOUS SOURCES, AND THE RESULTS ARE GIVEN IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE.

Source of Sample	Analysis	Results
1.1	1.1	1.1
1.2	1.2	1.2
1.3	1.3	1.3
1.4	1.4	1.4
1.5	1.5	1.5
1.6	1.6	1.6
1.7	1.7	1.7
1.8	1.8	1.8
1.9	1.9	1.9
2.0	2.0	2.0
2.1	2.1	2.1
2.2	2.2	2.2
2.3	2.3	2.3
2.4	2.4	2.4
2.5	2.5	2.5
2.6	2.6	2.6
2.7	2.7	2.7
2.8	2.8	2.8
2.9	2.9	2.9
3.0	3.0	3.0
3.1	3.1	3.1
3.2	3.2	3.2
3.3	3.3	3.3
3.4	3.4	3.4
3.5	3.5	3.5
3.6	3.6	3.6
3.7	3.7	3.7
3.8	3.8	3.8
3.9	3.9	3.9
4.0	4.0	4.0
4.1	4.1	4.1
4.2	4.2	4.2
4.3	4.3	4.3
4.4	4.4	4.4
4.5	4.5	4.5
4.6	4.6	4.6
4.7	4.7	4.7
4.8	4.8	4.8
4.9	4.9	4.9
5.0	5.0	5.0
5.1	5.1	5.1
5.2	5.2	5.2
5.3	5.3	5.3
5.4	5.4	5.4
5.5	5.5	5.5
5.6	5.6	5.6
5.7	5.7	5.7
5.8	5.8	5.8
5.9	5.9	5.9
6.0	6.0	6.0
6.1	6.1	6.1
6.2	6.2	6.2
6.3	6.3	6.3
6.4	6.4	6.4
6.5	6.5	6.5
6.6	6.6	6.6
6.7	6.7	6.7
6.8	6.8	6.8
6.9	6.9	6.9
7.0	7.0	7.0
7.1	7.1	7.1
7.2	7.2	7.2
7.3	7.3	7.3
7.4	7.4	7.4
7.5	7.5	7.5
7.6	7.6	7.6
7.7	7.7	7.7
7.8	7.8	7.8
7.9	7.9	7.9
8.0	8.0	8.0
8.1	8.1	8.1
8.2	8.2	8.2
8.3	8.3	8.3
8.4	8.4	8.4
8.5	8.5	8.5
8.6	8.6	8.6
8.7	8.7	8.7
8.8	8.8	8.8
8.9	8.9	8.9
9.0	9.0	9.0
9.1	9.1	9.1
9.2	9.2	9.2
9.3	9.3	9.3
9.4	9.4	9.4
9.5	9.5	9.5
9.6	9.6	9.6
9.7	9.7	9.7
9.8	9.8	9.8
9.9	9.9	9.9
10.0	10.0	10.0

That the results are satisfactory is evident from the above table, and the results are given in the following table.

vious question in the affirmative. Next in order are athletic competitions usually on a basis of intra-mural sports, in 51, or 55.4 per cent. Financial drives are put on a competitive basis in 50 schools, or 54.3 per cent. Punctuality is encouraged through homeroom competition in 49 cases, or 53.2 per cent. Scholarship competition goes on in 36, or 39.1 per cent of the 92 schools. The practice of competitive assembly programs is carried on in 25 cases, or 27.2 per cent of the total. Thrift competition, presumably banking, is held in 14 schools or 15.2 per cent. Debating in 8 schools, dramatics in 4, room-house-keeping in 2, clubs, spelling, setting-up drills, school paper subscriptions, literary efforts through the medium of the school magazine, and general participation in extra-curricular activities in one school each, make up the remainder of the list of things that are put on a competitive basis through the homeroom in these 92 high schools.

### Summary

Organized material showing definite planning of the homeroom program is to be found in very few of the high schools in Massachusetts. In a great majority of high schools, the administrative procedures are evidently laid down by the principal, and the other activities





may be indicated to a limited degree by means of office bulletins. The remainder of the task, if any, is left largely in the hands of the individual teacher. In two-thirds of the schools, the pupils are seldom, if ever, allowed to share in the planning, and it is evident that the period is, in most cases, teacher-planned and teacher-conducted.

The administrative duties of the homeroom teacher are chiefly matters of routine. Most common among them are taking attendance, serving as a means of communication between the office and the pupil, handling report cards, securing information needed by the office, conducting drives of various sorts, and performing registration duties at the beginning of the school year or at the time of choosing subjects for the following year, - in short, carrying on the activities that can be most effectively handled through a branch office. Although the details vary from school to school, a similar situation exists in almost every school from an administrative viewpoint.

The group guidance activities are less commonly carried on as would be expected from the fact that the guidance objectives are less frequently claimed. Discussion of curriculum offerings and of school customs and regulations are the only group activities found in over one-half of the schools studied. Although all sorts





discussions are held in varying degrees of frequency, there is no way of estimating from the returns how complete or how systematic such group counseling may be.

Among the different kinds of individual conferences mentioned the only conferences common to more than half of the schools are those held with reference to choice of subject. The others that appear most frequently are conferences on unsatisfactory marks or other phases of scholastic work. Only one-quarter of the schools report any effort to differentiate either the objectives or the activities of the different grades.

Homeroom competitions are a common form of activity in over half of the schools, the most frequent being in attendance, punctuality, athletics and financial drives.



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## CHAPTER VII

THE SUCCESS OF THE HOMEROOM PROGRAM  
IN MASSACHUSETTS HIGH SCHOOLS

Several questions were asked on the questionnaire which were intended to show something of the attitude of teachers toward the homeroom program and the degree of success which principals believe this program has attained in their schools. Any study of this phase of the problem must take into consideration the fact that since objectives differ from school to school, the estimates of success must be based on different viewpoints.

TABLE XXX

THE EXTENT TO WHICH TEACHERS IN 160 HIGH SCHOOLS  
ARE TRAINED FOR THEIR HOMEROOM DUTIES

	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Number of schools in which some teachers, at least, have taken courses in homeroom work	32	20.0
Number of schools which have made definite efforts at organized faculty training	19	11.9
Number of schools which have held occasional faculty discussions of homeroom problems	74	46.3
Number of schools in which the principal has knowledge of some teachers reading professional books on the subject of homerooms	42	26.3
Number of schools making no reply	55	34.4



CHAPTER IV

THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE  
IN THE PRESENT CENTURY

The history of the American people in the present century is a story of progress and achievement. It is a story of the growth of a great nation, of the development of a new civilization, and of the triumph of the human spirit over adversity. The American people have shown themselves to be a people of great courage, of great determination, and of great faith in the future. They have built a nation that is the envy of all peoples, and they have shown the world that the American dream is a reality.

CHAPTER V

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1.1	1.1	History of the American people in the present century
1.2	1.2	History of the American people in the present century
1.3	1.3	History of the American people in the present century
1.4	1.4	History of the American people in the present century
1.5	1.5	History of the American people in the present century
1.6	1.6	History of the American people in the present century
1.7	1.7	History of the American people in the present century
1.8	1.8	History of the American people in the present century
1.9	1.9	History of the American people in the present century
1.10	1.10	History of the American people in the present century

Table XXX represents an effort to tabulate information about the extent of the training which teachers have for their work. There were 55 schools which did not answer this question, but 32, or 20 per cent of the total, reported that some of their teachers have taken courses in college, graduate school, or extension study in the field of homeroom activity, while 19 schools, or 11.9 per cent, reported that they had made some definite effort to train teachers through an organized faculty course of training. Only 46.3 per cent of the entire number, or 74, have even occasional faculty discussions of homeroom plans, and only 42 principals, or 26.3 per cent, reported that they have knowledge of some of their teachers reading professional works on the subject. While such a set of answers must necessarily be vague and inconclusive, it is quite clear that most homeroom teachers are only incidentally trained for the work usually considered as the legitimate activity of the homeroom organization.

An effort was also made to discover the attitude of teachers toward the homeroom idea. Table XXXI shows that 5 schools, or 3.1 per cent, reported the prevailing attitude to be one of enthusiasm, 95, or 59.4 per cent reported a favorable attitude, 33, or 20.6 per cent, one of indifference, and 3, or 1.9 per cent, one





of strong opposition. There were 5 schools, or 3.1 per cent, which indicated a widely divergent attitude among different teachers, and 19, or 11.9 per cent, made no answer.

TABLE XXXI

THE ATTITUDE OF TEACHERS IN 160 HIGH SCHOOLS  
TOWARD THE HOMEROOM IDEA

Prevailing Attitude of Teachers	Number of Schools	Percentage of Schools
Enthusiastic	5	3.1
Favorable	95	59.4
Indifferent	33	20.6
Mildly opposed	0	0.0
Strongly opposed	3	1.9
Varies widely	5	3.1
No answer	<u>19</u>	<u>11.9</u>
Total	160	100.0

Here, too, one must take into consideration the fact that many of the schools have only the administrative objective, toward which few teachers could have any valid objections. One reply, typical of several, is as follows: "Our teachers are very favorably disposed toward the homeroom idea within the limited scope which we have given to it. They are strongly opposed, however, to any extension of the program."



of which, approximately, 1000 were in 1910, or 1.1 per cent, of the total population. The number of persons in the United States, who were in 1910, was 100,000,000, and in 1920, 120,000,000.

### TABLE VIII

THE ATTITUDE OF THE PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES  
TOWARD THE FOREIGN BORN

Attitude	Number	Percentage
Extremely hostile	10	0.1
Hostile	25	0.2
Indifferent	35	0.3
Slightly opposed	60	0.6
Strongly opposed	2	0.02
Indifferent	2	0.02
Extremely friendly	15	0.15
Total	100	100.0

From the above table it is seen that the attitude of the people of the United States toward the foreign born is, on the whole, indifferent. The number of persons who are extremely hostile is very small, and the number who are extremely friendly is also very small. The number of persons who are slightly opposed is 60 per cent, and the number who are strongly opposed is 2 per cent. The number of persons who are indifferent is 35 per cent. The number of persons who are extremely friendly is 15 per cent. The number of persons who are slightly friendly is 2 per cent. The number of persons who are strongly friendly is 2 per cent. The number of persons who are indifferent is 35 per cent. The number of persons who are extremely hostile is 10 per cent. The number of persons who are hostile is 25 per cent. The number of persons who are slightly opposed is 60 per cent. The number of persons who are strongly opposed is 2 per cent. The number of persons who are indifferent is 2 per cent. The number of persons who are extremely friendly is 15 per cent. The number of persons who are slightly friendly is 2 per cent. The number of persons who are strongly friendly is 2 per cent.

TABLE XXXII

THE SUCCESS OF HOMEROOM PROGRAMS AS ESTIMATED  
BY THE PRINCIPALS OF 160 HIGH SCHOOLS

Estimate of Success	Number of Principals Reporting this Estimate	Percentage of Principals Reporting this Estimate
Very successful	17	10.6
Moderately successful	88	55.0
Doubtful	24	15.0
Unsuccessful	0	0.0
No answer	<u>31</u>	<u>19.4</u>
Total	160	100.0

Table XXXII shows the success of the homeroom program as estimated by 160 principals. Of this number, 17, or 10.6 per cent, reported the plan to be very successful, and 88, or 55 per cent, moderately successful. Although none consider the plan definitely unsuccessful, 24, or 15 per cent, have doubts as to its efficacy, while 31, or 19.4 per cent, did not reply. Here again, answers similar to the one quoted in the previous paragraph qualify the statements by limiting them to estimation of the success attained in the things actually attempted.

It is in the answers to the request for comments that one is likely to find a hint of the true situation. Although only 15 per cent of the principals reported that they feel the program to be unsuccessful, 56, or





35 per cent, made comments indicating that they feel that serious difficulties stand in the way of carrying out homeroom activities of the sort generally thought of in this connection. The most frequently mentioned hindrances to such a program were: (1) lack of time for the work under present conditions, (2) lack of available time on the part of teachers which could be allotted to such a purpose, (3) lack of training on the part of teachers, and (4) lack of interest or understanding on the part of teachers.

A few quotations may serve to indicate the general nature of these comments. The following replies are typical of those from high schools of over 1000 pupils:

"We are accomplishing a great deal in our homeroom organization. More and more teachers are becoming interested and pupils are enthusiastic."

"Unless the teachers are trained and constantly supervised, a general homeroom program involving training in citizenship is not successful. We have put this in the Social Studies Department where it is very successful."

"Too many teachers are unfitted by temperament, interests, and habits to guide such a delicately adjusted program intelligently."

"Poor selling by the principal."

Some of the comments by principals in schools of 501 to 1000 pupils are these:

- "(1) Lack of sufficiently organized program
- (2) Lack of enthusiasm on the part of teachers due somewhat to the heavy teaching programs they have."





"Lack of training and interest on the part of the teachers. Some of my homeroom teachers are doing a good job, others not so good."

"Failure to realize the opportunities too often in evidence."

"We do not try to do more because the homeroom teachers have no interest in it and can see no reason for it."

From the schools of 201 to 500 pupils came the following typical responses to this question:

"Lack of time. Teachers have too many things to do."

"It all lies in the personality of the teacher."

"Some teachers have not aptitude for such work. At the present time, with larger classes and additional duties, teachers are at a loss to find sufficient time to handle the problem in a satisfactory manner."

"It is successful in the unimpressive things we try to accomplish:

- (1) Administrative aid
- (2) Unit for student council organization
- (3) Unit for athletic competition

It does not attempt (and hence is not successful) to set up an elaborate enrichment, guidance, or character training program."

Some representative replies from the smaller schools of 101 to 200 pupils are as follows:

"Lack of time or effort on the part of the principal to sell the proposition to the teachers and to keep them sold."

"The majority of my teachers are teaching seven periods of forty-three minutes each every day. I believe the program would be more successful if teachers had two or more free study periods per week which could be devoted to planning their homeroom programs."





"Unless we can convince our teachers that we train pupils for democracy only by a democratic life in the school, then our homeroom periods and programs will not attain the vitality that is essential if they are to be real teaching devices."

In short, there is evident a fairly common feeling among principals, indicated by the questionnaire and borne out by personal conversation with many of them, that unless the teacher is trained to see and to seize the opportunities offered by the homeroom and unless teaching loads are adjusted to allow time for planning as well as carrying on the period, the program is doomed to failure.

#### Summary

Although a considerable number of principals reported the attitudes of teachers to be favorable and the program to be successful, there are many indications that principals feel that to be really successful as something more than a purely administrative unit, it will be necessary to educate teachers to an understanding of the possibilities of the period, to train them for it and to allow time in their schedules for the performance of the duties as regular assignments and not as extra duties added to an already over-burdened school day.



"Hence we can say that the  
 that we find in the history of the  
 democratic life in the world, from the  
 good nations and nations with not even the  
 vital that is essential to them are to be  
 and nothing more."

In short, there is a truly common feeling  
 among the people, indicated by the governments and  
 borne out by personal conversation with many of them,  
 that unless the people is helped to do so by help  
 the opportunities offered by the nations and nations  
 teaching leads are required to allow time for thinking  
 as well as action on the part of the people.  
 Hence the failure.

### Summary

Although a considerable number of people in  
 the world are attracted to teachers to be teachers and  
 the progress to be made, there are many things  
 that are not yet done and to be truly common-  
 and as something more than a truly democratic  
 it will be necessary to create teachers to be  
 training of the possibilities of the people, to train  
 them for it and to show them in their education for  
 the performance of the nation as a whole, to  
 and not as a mere matter of an individual's

## CHAPTER VIII

## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The development of the guidance movement in education has unfolded to educators the possibility of an expansion of the homeroom into something more than an administrative unit.

The attitude of high school administrators toward the homeroom has developed along two lines, one that guidance is a task for specialists and cannot be entrusted to the homeroom teacher, the other that the homeroom teacher is in a strategic position which enables him to function effectively in all phases of guidance.

Educators taking the former viewpoint are disposed to look upon the homeroom as almost exclusively an administrative unit. Educators taking the latter viewpoint usually consider the objectives of the homeroom organization to be

- a. Administrative efficiency
- b. Guidance
- c. Pupil participation in school citizenship
- d. Curriculum enrichment

Among the Massachusetts high schools, over 86 per cent have homeroom organizations. These seem to fall into three groups: about 20 per cent use the homeroom for administrative purposes only; about 50 per



1947-1948

# REPORT AND CONCLUSIONS

The Department of the Interior is pleased to have been authorized to conduct the study of the National Park Service and its various units. The study was conducted from July 1, 1947, to June 30, 1948, and the results are presented in this report.

The study was conducted by a committee of the Department of the Interior, consisting of the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, and the Director of the National Park Service. The committee was assisted by a staff of the Department of the Interior, consisting of the Assistant Secretary, the Director of the National Park Service, and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management. The study was conducted in accordance with the terms of the authorization, and the results are presented in this report.

The study was conducted in accordance with the terms of the authorization, and the results are presented in this report. The study was conducted in accordance with the terms of the authorization, and the results are presented in this report. The study was conducted in accordance with the terms of the authorization, and the results are presented in this report.

1. Administrative efficiency
2. Financial management
3. Personnel management
4. Physical plant management
5. Public relations management

The study was conducted in accordance with the terms of the authorization, and the results are presented in this report. The study was conducted in accordance with the terms of the authorization, and the results are presented in this report. The study was conducted in accordance with the terms of the authorization, and the results are presented in this report.

cent have fairly definite objectives in the direction of guidance or of pupil participation in school citizenship, or both, in addition to the administrative purpose; the others are organized primarily for administration but recognize in a half-hearted way some of the other objectives advocated by writers on the subject. Practically all use the homeroom as an administrative device, and scarcely any set up curriculum enrichment as a conscious objective.

The only forms of guidance appearing among the objectives of one-half of the schools or over are orientation, personal guidance, and educational guidance, which are found in 56.3 per cent, 53.1 per cent, and 51.3 per cent, respectively. Other forms of guidance range in order from social guidance in 41.9 per cent of the schools, through moral guidance in 38.8 per cent, health guidance in 31.3 per cent, and vocational guidance in 26.9 per cent, to recreational guidance in 18.1 per cent.

Pupil participation in school citizenship is an objective in 41.2 per cent of the schools.

Neither the objectives nor the activities are differentiated for different grades in three-fourths of the schools.

The typical homeroom in Massachusetts high schools is a group of 30 to 40 pupils of both sexes from the





same grade, arranged alphabetically in the larger schools, and frequently by curriculums.

It is presided over by a teacher who remains one year with the group and who in about half the schools is assigned for the following year to another group of the same grade. In a few schools the same teacher is kept with the group throughout its entire school career.

In practically all schools, the homeroom group assembles at least once daily for administrative purposes. Slightly over one-half of the schools have a homeroom period of not less than 20 minutes, usually between 35 and 50 minutes, which comes weekly or oftener, in some schools daily, most frequently at the beginning of the day.

One-half of the schools have homeroom officers, the most common being president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and representative to the student council. These officers usually serve one year.

About one-third of the schools make use of a wide variety of homeroom committees, the most frequent being those for special programs, good housekeeping, athletics, and social activities.

There is very little organized planning of homeroom programs in Massachusetts high schools. Aside from regulations for administrative procedures and limited



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suggestions as to other activities coming from the principal's office, the task is largely in the hands of the individual teacher with the pupil seldom sharing in such planning as is done.

The administrative duties of the homeroom are chiefly the routine matters of a branch office. Most common are checking attendance, reading bulletins, handling report cards, securing information, conducting drives, performing registration duties, and holding elections, these being found with frequencies ranging from 88.1 per cent for the first to 59.4 per cent for the last mentioned. Numerous other similar activities are found to a less degree.

Group discussion on all phases of guidance work are held with varying frequency in different schools, the most common being those with reference to curriculum offerings and school customs and regulations. Even these occur in less than two-thirds of the schools reporting.

About two-thirds of the schools expect the homeroom teacher to hold individual conferences with pupils on their choice of subjects to be studied, and in nearly one-half of the schools the homeroom teacher confers with failing pupils on the matter of unsatisfactory marks. Other types of conferences pointing to each phase of the guidance objective are held to a less de-





gree in different schools.

In general, there seems to be more feeling of responsibility for guidance in those things which affect immediately the pupil's official school relationships than in the personal, extra-curricular, or outside activities which may be part of the real business of living.

Competition between rooms is frequently used as a means of motivation in one-half of the schools studied, particularly in attendance, punctuality and financial drives. The homeroom often serves also as a basis for intra-mural athletic competition.

There is considerable evidence that principals who are either definitely or half-heartedly attempting to utilize the possibilities of the homeroom are not satisfied with the results obtained under existing conditions. An occasional principal seems to be thoroughly satisfied that the homeroom is securing the desired results in his school. Those who feel that the possibilities, outside of administration, are extremely limited are in a more contented frame of mind. Many of them have located the guidance function elsewhere in the program of the school.

There seems to be no question about the responsibility of the school for the guidance of its pupils.





That, today, is taken for granted. The troublesome question is that of finding the right method of performing this function.

It is probably true that either of the two methods discussed is sufficiently sound provided that it is carried out according to a systematic and well-organized plan. Principals should cease to hope that some good may come out of the homeroom without doing anything about it, and should either abandon any effort to locate the guidance responsibilities here, making the homeroom frankly and efficiently an administrative unit, and perhaps a basis of representation in pupil affairs, or he should definitely and unmistakably place the guidance responsibility on the homeroom teacher.

In the former case, the time allotted to the homeroom should be reduced to the minimum necessary for the efficient performance of the duties assigned to it. There would be no necessity for an elaborate set-up of officers or committees. If the latter procedure is adopted, the time allotted should be adequate for the task to be done and should be advantageously situated in the schedule with nothing being allowed to interfere with its functions.

Teachers under such a system should be definitely educated to understand the philosophy of education



That, which is known for certain. The conclusion  
question is that of finding the right method of  
conducting this business.

It is probably true that either of the two methods  
mentioned is extremely simple and obvious, but it is not  
very far removed from a scientific and well-organized  
plan. This plan should be based on the fact that each  
and every one of the numerous national units, whether  
large or small, should be able to stand on its own feet  
and be financially independent. Hence, within the  
national framework and especially in administrative  
units, and perhaps a series of representative  
offices, or as much as possible, are necessarily placed  
the national financial life in the national budget.  
In the future, the law should be the same  
and should be placed in the national budget for the  
national budget in the future assigned to it.  
There would be no necessity for an elaborate set-up of  
departments or committees. If the latter procedure is  
adopted, the same effect would be achieved for the  
fact is on hand that there is a considerable amount  
in the national budget which should be placed in a separate  
unit for financial.

Therefore, there will be a great deal of difficulty  
involved in introducing the principle of national

underlying the plan and to realize and appreciate its possibilities. They should be definitely trained in the performance of the duties assigned to them. The time to be devoted to the work, in and out of the homeroom period, should be a regular part of the teaching load and other duties should be scheduled with due consideration for this part of the burden.

In such a setting, the outcomes expected should be clearly defined in terms of specific objectives to be attained. Such objectives and the procedures to be used in attaining them might well be worked out in advance by committees of teachers or by individual teachers working with the approval of the responsible school official, just as plans for any other phase of school work are developed.

It is not intended to intimate here that homeroom periods can be reduced to cut-and-dried procedures and made effective. Such an approach might be fatal to the success of the program. One conclusion, however, to be drawn from this study is that if the homeroom is to be a worthwhile school unit, the homeroom teacher must be made to see the need and the purpose of such a unit, must be given a very definite and specific job to do, must be allowed time to plan and execute the task, and may then properly be held strictly to account for the performance of the duties assigned.





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ALPHABETICALLY

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A manual for the student and teacher  
and also for the parent who is interested  
in the subject.

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1954. 2 + 101 pp.

A manual for the student and teacher  
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Section 1. Title of the Bill.  
The title of the bill is "An Act to amend the law relating to the administration of the courts of the State of New York."

The bill is intended to amend the law relating to the administration of the courts of the State of New York.

Section 2. Short Title.  
This Act may be cited as the "Court Administration Act."

A brief statement of the objects and purposes of the bill is as follows:

The bill is intended to amend the law relating to the administration of the courts of the State of New York.

The bill is intended to amend the law relating to the administration of the courts of the State of New York.

Section 3. Definitions.  
In this Act, the following definitions shall apply:

A reference to any section of the Code of Civil Procedure shall be construed to refer to the section of the Code of Civil Procedure as amended by the provisions of this Act.

Section 4. Construction.  
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1. Section 1 of the Act provides that the Commission shall, before making any recommendation, hold public hearings and receive suggestions from interested persons.

2. Section 2 of the Act provides that the Commission shall, before making any recommendation, hold public hearings and receive suggestions from interested persons.

3. Section 3 of the Act provides that the Commission shall, before making any recommendation, hold public hearings and receive suggestions from interested persons.

4. Section 4 of the Act provides that the Commission shall, before making any recommendation, hold public hearings and receive suggestions from interested persons.

5. Section 5 of the Act provides that the Commission shall, before making any recommendation, hold public hearings and receive suggestions from interested persons.

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7. Section 7 of the Act provides that the Commission shall, before making any recommendation, hold public hearings and receive suggestions from interested persons.

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10. Section 10 of the Act provides that the Commission shall, before making any recommendation, hold public hearings and receive suggestions from interested persons.

11. Section 11 of the Act provides that the Commission shall, before making any recommendation, hold public hearings and receive suggestions from interested persons.

12. Section 12 of the Act provides that the Commission shall, before making any recommendation, hold public hearings and receive suggestions from interested persons.

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A discussion of the purposes of the homeroom in the junior high school.

22. Reavis, W. C. "Guidance Programs in Secondary Schools." Proceedings of the Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the Department of Secondary School Principals of the National Education Association, Washington, D. C., February 22, 23 and 24, 1932. Bulletin Number 40, Department of Secondary School Principals of the National Education Association, March, 1932, pp. 67-81. Cicero, Ill.: H. V. Church, J. Sterling Morton High School, 1932.

A summary of the guidance data collected in 1927 from a sample group of 522 secondary schools. Three major types of organization were reported.

23. Reavis, William C. Programs of Guidance. Office of Education, United States Department of the Interior, Bulletin, 1932, No. 17, National Survey of Secondary Education, Monograph No. 14. Washington: Government Printing Office. vi + 144 pp.

A good summary of the types of guidance organization in use in the United States, with detailed discussion of typical school systems.

24. National Association of Secondary School Principals, Committee on Guidance. Guidance in Secondary Schools. Bulletin No. 19, January, 1928. Cicero, Ill.: H. V. Church, J. Sterling Morton High School, iii + 94 pp.

A report of the possibilities of guidance in the secondary school, with emphasis on the viewpoint that the foundation of guidance is the homeroom organization.



1. The first of the three main points of the report is that the present system of education in the United States is based on a false premise, namely, that the child is a blank slate upon which the teacher writes. This is a false premise because the child is born with a certain amount of intelligence and a certain amount of knowledge, and the teacher's job is to develop these qualities, not to create them from scratch.

2. The second point of the report is that the present system of education is based on a false premise, namely, that the child is a blank slate upon which the teacher writes. This is a false premise because the child is born with a certain amount of intelligence and a certain amount of knowledge, and the teacher's job is to develop these qualities, not to create them from scratch.

3. The third point of the report is that the present system of education is based on a false premise, namely, that the child is a blank slate upon which the teacher writes. This is a false premise because the child is born with a certain amount of intelligence and a certain amount of knowledge, and the teacher's job is to develop these qualities, not to create them from scratch.

4. The fourth point of the report is that the present system of education is based on a false premise, namely, that the child is a blank slate upon which the teacher writes. This is a false premise because the child is born with a certain amount of intelligence and a certain amount of knowledge, and the teacher's job is to develop these qualities, not to create them from scratch.

5. The fifth point of the report is that the present system of education is based on a false premise, namely, that the child is a blank slate upon which the teacher writes. This is a false premise because the child is born with a certain amount of intelligence and a certain amount of knowledge, and the teacher's job is to develop these qualities, not to create them from scratch.

## Unpublished Theses

25. Thompson, Carl V. A Study of the Home Room Activities of the Senior and Four Year High Schools of Ohio. Unpublished Master's thesis, Ohio State University, 1930. 102 pp.

A Master's thesis giving a detailed analysis of the homeroom situation in Ohio as revealed in a questionnaire.

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26. Lakewood, Ohio, Junior High Schools. Homeroom Orientation and Guidance, Grades Seven and Eight. (mimeographed). Lakewood, Ohio: School Department, 1933. 41 pp.

An excellent manual for homeroom teaching organized on a unit basis following Morrison's ideas.

27. Tulsa, Oklahoma, Central High School. A Guidance Manual for Sophomore Home Rooms. Tulsa, Okla.: City Board of Education, 1928. 117 pp.

A complete manual for sophomore homerooms.

28. Tulsa, Oklahoma, Central High School. A Guidance Manual for Junior Home Rooms. Tulsa, Okla.: City Board of Education, 1928. 111 pp.

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29. Tulsa, Oklahoma, Central High School. A Guidance Manual for Senior Home Rooms. Tulsa, Okla.: City Board of Education, 1929. 117 pp.

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30. Tulsa, Oklahoma, Central High School. Manual of Administration. Tulsa, Okla.: City Board of Education, 1927. 193 pp.

A manual for all the administrative functions of a comprehensive high school, with especially good suggestions for homeroom administration.





31. Waterloo, Iowa, West High School. An Outline of School Guidance Program with Suggestions for Advisers and Homeroom Teachers, 1930-1931. (mimeographed). Waterloo, Iowa: West High School, 1930. 92 pp.

An outline of homeroom activities in a four-year high school.

32. Westfield, Massachusetts, High School. A Program for Freshman Home Room Activities. (mimeographed). Westfield, Mass.: Westfield High School. 59 pp.

A manual for freshman homerooms.

33. Winfield, Kansas, Senior High School. Manual of Activities and Administration and the Outline of Home Room Study and Activity. Winfield, Kansas: City Board of Education, 1928. 120 pp.

An outline of homeroom activities in a six-year high school.

#### Charts

34. Davis, Jesse B. Analysis of the Homeroom Activity Program in the Senior and Junior High School. Two charts worked out as a class project in a Seminar at Boston University School of Education, 1932. Boston, Mass.: Dr. Jesse B. Davis, School of Education, Boston University, 1932.

A concise statement of the objectives of the homeroom classified under the headings of citizenship, guidance and character.



21. Western, Iowa, West High School, 1935  
Annual Report of the Western  
High School, 1935  
 Western, Iowa, West High School, 1935

An outline of western activities  
 in a four-year high school.

22. Westfield, Massachusetts, Westfield High School, 1935  
Annual Report of the Westfield  
High School, 1935  
 Westfield, Mass., Westfield High School, 1935

A manual for western activities.

23. Westfield, Kansas, Westfield High School, 1935  
Annual Report of the Westfield  
High School, 1935  
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 in a six-year high school.

#### Other

24. David, Jesse B., Activities of the Western  
High School, 1935  
 David, Jesse B., Activities of the Western  
 High School, 1935

A manual for western activities  
 in a four-year high school.





APPENDIX

1. A copy of the letter which accompanied the questionnaire
2. A copy of the questionnaire

Westfield, Mass.,  
Feb. 23, 1934.

John Smith, Prin.,  
Central High School,  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Smith:

Can you spare time to answer another question-  
naire?

The data secured from the inclosed questions on the objectives, organization and activities of the homeroom in Massachusetts senior and four-year high schools will be used in a thesis now being prepared under the direction of Dr. Jesse B. Davis of Boston University. Most of the answers may be indicated by a simple check mark. I would appreciate information about the program in your school.

In return for your kindness and patience, you have my heartfelt thanks, a promise to do the same for you sometime, and a summary of the findings if you happen to be interested.

Sincerely yours,

T. J. Abernethy, Prin.,  
Westfield High School.





20. Which of the following group activities are carried on in your home room periods?

- ☐ a. Study of school handbook or other pupil manual
  - ☐ b. Explanation of school customs and regulations not included in such a handbook
  - ☐ c. Discussion or explanation of curricular offerings
  - ☐ d. Discussion of higher institutions
  - ☐ e. Discussion of how to study
  - ☐ f. Discussion of budgeting of time
  - ☐ g. Discussion of vocational opportunities
  - ☐ h. Outside speakers on vocational subjects
  - ☐ i. Discussion of manners and social conventions
  - ☐ j. Discussion of character traits and personality
  - ☐ k. Case conferences on moral problems
  - ☐ l. Discussion of health problems
  - ☐ m. Discussion of leisure time opportunities of the school
  - ☐ n. Discussion of leisure time opportunities of the community
  - ☐ o. Discussion of thrift
  - ☐ p. Discussion of citizenship traits
  - ☐ q. Discussion of qualifications of good school officers
  - ☐ r. Discussion of Student Council legislation
  - ☐ s. Programs in observance of special days
  - ☐ t. Programs of entertainment
  - ☐ u. Other group activities
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

21. Which of the following types of individual counseling are the responsibility of the home room teacher?

- ☐ a. Conferences on choice of subjects
  - ☐ b. Conferences on subject changes
  - ☐ c. Conferences on higher institutions
  - ☐ d. Conferences on unsatisfactory marks
  - ☐ e. Adjustments between pupils and other teachers
  - ☐ f. Conferences on vocational plans
  - ☐ g. Definite efforts at vocational placement
  - ☐ h. Conferences on social problems
  - ☐ i. Conferences on health habits
  - ☐ j. Conferences on moral problems
  - ☐ k. Health inspections (colds, contagious diseases, etc.)
  - ☐ l. Conferences on recreational or leisure time activities
  - ☐ m. Other types of personal conferences
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

22. Do you make any effort to differentiate the home room objectives and activities in the different grades?

☐ Yes ☐ No

23. Are any home room competitions set up in your school?

☐ Yes ☐ No



10. Which of the following activities are carried on in your home town?

- \_\_\_\_\_ a. Study of school subjects or other special subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ b. Exhibition of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ c. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ d. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ e. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ f. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ g. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ h. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ i. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ j. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ k. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ l. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ m. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ n. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ o. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ p. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ q. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ r. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ s. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ t. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ u. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ v. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ w. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ x. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ y. Discussion of school subjects and regulations
- \_\_\_\_\_ z. Discussion of school subjects and regulations

11. Which of the following types of individual counseling are the responsibility of the home town council?

- \_\_\_\_\_ a. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ b. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ c. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ d. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ e. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ f. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ g. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ h. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ i. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ j. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ k. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ l. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ m. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ n. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ o. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ p. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ q. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ r. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ s. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ t. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ u. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ v. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ w. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ x. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ y. Counseling on choice of subjects
- \_\_\_\_\_ z. Counseling on choice of subjects

12. Do you have any other activities in the home town?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

13. Do you have any other suggestions for the home town?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

24. If so, in what activities are these competitions organized?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. Athletics   | <input type="checkbox"/> g. Assembly programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b. Attendance  | <input type="checkbox"/> h. Financial drives  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c. Scholarship | <input type="checkbox"/> i. Thrift            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> d. Punctuality | <input type="checkbox"/> j. Others            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> e. Dramatics   | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> f. Debating    | _____   |

25. By whom is the activity of the home room period in general determined?

- ☐ a. By the principal
- ☐ b. By a committee of teachers
- ☐ c. By the individual teacher
- ☐ d. By the teacher and the room committee
- ☐ e. By the pupils of the home room
- ☐ f. Other methods
- \_\_\_\_\_

26. Approximately what percentage of your teachers have had some special training in the duties of a home room teacher?

- ☐ a. In organized under-graduate, graduate or extension courses
- ☐ b. In organized faculty training
- ☐ c. In occasional faculty discussion
- ☐ d. In individual professional reading

27. What is the general attitude of your teachers toward the home room?

enthusi- astic	favorable	indifferent	mildly opposed	strongly opposed
-------------------	-----------	-------------	-------------------	---------------------

28. How would you estimate the success of your home room program in meeting its announced objectives?

very success- ful	moderately successful	doubtful	unsuccessful
----------------------	--------------------------	----------	--------------

29. If not successful, wherein do you think the weakness lies?

30. If you would like a summary of the findings of this study, to whom should it be sent?

\_\_\_\_\_





Please return to T. J. Abernethy, Westfield, Mass.

Name of school \_\_\_\_\_ Grades included \_\_\_\_\_ Enrollment \_\_\_\_\_

1. Is your school organized into home rooms?

\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_ No

2. If so organized, do you have printed or mimeographed manuals, outlines, or other materials which serve to indicate or to describe the objectives, organization, or activities of the home room, or the duties of the home room teacher?

\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_ No

3. May I have a copy of this material?

- \_\_\_\_ a. Copy herewith--charge \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_ b. Copy will be forwarded on receipt of \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_ c. Material to be returned after using
- \_\_\_\_ d. No copies available

If you have a home room organization, will you please check the answers to any questions that are not clearly indicated in the material mentioned above?

4. What are the objectives of the home room organization?

- \_\_\_\_ a. Administrative efficiency
- \_\_\_\_ b. Orientation in school life and routine
- \_\_\_\_ c. Personal guidance
- \_\_\_\_ d. Educational guidance
- \_\_\_\_ e. Vocational guidance
- \_\_\_\_ f. Social guidance
- \_\_\_\_ g. Moral guidance
- \_\_\_\_ h. Health guidance
- \_\_\_\_ i. Recreational and leisure guidance
- \_\_\_\_ j. Curriculum enrichment
- \_\_\_\_ k. Pupil participation in citizenship
- \_\_\_\_ l. Formulation of desirable public opinion
- \_\_\_\_ m. Other objectives

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. On what basis are your home rooms organized?

\_\_\_\_ a. By class      \_\_\_\_ b. Without consideration of class

- \_\_\_\_ (1). By alphabetical order
- \_\_\_\_ (2). By random selection
- \_\_\_\_ (3). By intelligence quotients or ability ratings
- \_\_\_\_ (4). By sex
- \_\_\_\_ (5). By elementary or junior high schools
- \_\_\_\_ (6). By first period recitation groups
- \_\_\_\_ (7). By curriculums
- \_\_\_\_ (8). By extra-curricular interests
- \_\_\_\_ (9). By chronological age
- \_\_\_\_ (10). On other bases



Name of subject \_\_\_\_\_

1. Is your subject of general interest to you?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

2. If so, why? (Check all that apply) (If subject is of general interest to you, check "Yes" and explain why in item 1.)

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

3. How do you know of this subject?

- \_\_\_\_\_ a. From newspaper or magazine
- \_\_\_\_\_ b. From radio or television
- \_\_\_\_\_ c. From books or pamphlets
- \_\_\_\_\_ d. From other sources

4. How do you know of this subject? (If subject is of general interest to you, check "Yes" and explain why in item 1.)

5. What are the objectives of the subject's organization?

- \_\_\_\_\_ a. Educational
- \_\_\_\_\_ b. Cultural
- \_\_\_\_\_ c. Religious
- \_\_\_\_\_ d. Political
- \_\_\_\_\_ e. Social
- \_\_\_\_\_ f. Economic
- \_\_\_\_\_ g. Scientific
- \_\_\_\_\_ h. Other

6. How do you know of this subject?

7. What are the objectives of the subject's organization?

- \_\_\_\_\_ a. Educational
- \_\_\_\_\_ b. Cultural
- \_\_\_\_\_ c. Religious
- \_\_\_\_\_ d. Political
- \_\_\_\_\_ e. Social
- \_\_\_\_\_ f. Economic
- \_\_\_\_\_ g. Scientific
- \_\_\_\_\_ h. Other

6. What is the usual size of the group assigned to a home room? \_\_\_\_\_

7. How long does the group usually remain with the same home room teacher?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. One semester                 | <input type="checkbox"/> e. Other arrangements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b. One year                     | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c. For the entire school career | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> d. All but senior year          | _____  |

8. If the groups change by semester or year, do the teachers usually remain with groups of the same grade as before?

☐ Yes ☐ No

9. What is the frequency and the length of the home room period?

- |  |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. Daily for _____ minutes                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b. _____ days per week for _____ minutes each |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c. Other arrangements                         |
- \_\_\_\_\_

10. When are home room sessions held?

- |  |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. At the beginning of the school day       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b. At the end of the second period          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c. At the beginning of the afternoon period |
| <input type="checkbox"/> d. After lunch period                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> e. At the close of school                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> f. At other times                           |
- \_\_\_\_\_

11. What are the officers of your home rooms?

- |   |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. None                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b. President                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c. Vice president                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> d. Secretary                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> e. Treasurer                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> f. Combined secretary-treasurer      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> g. Cheer leader                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> h. Thrift officer                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> i. Ticket seller                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> j. Representative to Student Council |
| <input type="checkbox"/> k. Others                            |
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

12. How long do they hold office?

- |  |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. One semester       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b. One year           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c. Other arrangements |
- \_\_\_\_\_





13. What committees are there in your home rooms?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. None                | <input type="checkbox"/> l. Excursions       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b. Scholarship         | <input type="checkbox"/> m. Dramatics        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c. Good housekeeping   | <input type="checkbox"/> n. Literary         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> d. Discipline          | <input type="checkbox"/> o. Current events   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> e. Thrift              | <input type="checkbox"/> p. Charity          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> f. Welfare             | <input type="checkbox"/> q. Athletics        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> g. Publicity           | <input type="checkbox"/> r. Social           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> h. Boosters            | <input type="checkbox"/> s. Citizenship      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> i. Manners and conduct | <input type="checkbox"/> t. Art              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> j. Health              | <input type="checkbox"/> u. Special programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> k. Debating            | <input type="checkbox"/> v. Others           |

14. Is the home room a basis for representation in the Student Council?

☐ Yes ☐ No

15. If so, what is the status of the representative?

☐ President of the home room ☐ A special officer

16. Do the home room pupils participate in the planning of the program for the home room period?

☐ always ☐ usually ☐ frequently ☐ seldom ☐ never

17. Do pupils preside at the home room sessions?

☐ always ☐ usually ☐ frequently ☐ seldom ☐ never

18. Is parliamentary procedure followed at the home room sessions?

☐ always ☐ usually ☐ frequently ☐ seldom ☐ never

19. What administrative functions are performed in the home room?

- ☐ a. Checking attendance
- ☐ b. Reading group notices from the office
- ☐ c. Conveying notices from the office to individual pupils
- ☐ d. Distributing books and supplies
- ☐ e. Recording marks on the report cards
- ☐ f. Distributing report cards
- ☐ g. Recording marks on office records
- ☐ h. Obtaining information requested by the office
- ☐ i. Performing registration duties at the beginning of the school year
- ☐ j. Registering pupils for next year's classes
- ☐ k. Serving as voting places for class and school officers
- ☐ l. Holding subscription drives, etc.
- ☐ m. School banking
- ☐ n. Disciplinary action
- ☐ o. Others





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